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FROM

**MILLER & Co.,**

COLOMBO & KANDY.

# The Planting Gazette

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

OL. I.]

FEBRUARY, 1914.

[ No. 12 ]

## Editorial Notes

In our correspondence columns a letter from Mr. Bremer advocates renewed consideration of Aerial Cableways, and there is no doubt that the recent floods and break-down as well as periodical outbreaks of epidemics among draft cattle add point to his eloquence. There are Cableways on several estates in the Island which have run successfully we believe for a number of years, and the question has been discussed in more than one local Planters' Association. Perhaps the chief difficulty is the diversity of ownership in the valleys that would most benefit from this means of transport. It is very difficult to obtain universal support for any proposition in Ceylon, and particularly so where the properties of private individuals and of companies are so intermingled as they are in nearly all Planting Districts. We would welcome an article from any engineering firm interested in this subject or from any planter, who has had practical experience of aerial transport. If it were proved that cableways could compete successfully both in cost and efficacy with motor transport, and at the same time, show no compensating disadvantage, Government might possibly be induced to assist in establishing them in some instances rather than incur the very heavy expenditure on roads otherwise inevitable.

In the letter appearing in another column from the Inspector-General of Police an important point seems to have been overlooked. Estates cannot legally employ these coolies or put them on their Registers as they have neither

Discharge Tickets nor Ragama Certificates and the Inspector-General himself admits that some have previously been employed on estates—so that even a Police Magistrate's Certificate is unobtainable.

Once this difficulty can be got over advantage should be taken of this offer of co-operation. It seems at once a new, though probably small, source of labour and a very wise attempt to deal with the vagrant problem on common-sense lines.

We are indebted to Dr. E. Langley Hunt, C.M.G., for an article on the comparative value of foodstuffs in the tropics. It is curious to read that rice is in reality one of the poorest foods in use. Probably the coolie knows a great deal more about food than we are apt to believe. He eats what he can get easily and cook quickly, and if we were to offer him a larger selection and wider choice of diet, together with facilities for preparing his food, such as a small mill in the factory to grind kurrakkan, he might exercise his enhanced power of selection to vary his diet not only to his own physical benefit but to the pecuniary advantage of all estates which issue rice at a loss. The figures in this connection given in the minutes of the General Committee meeting of the P. A. are of great significance.

### COMPARATIVE VALUE OF FOOD STUFFS IN THE TROPICS.

Rice, kurrakkan, millet, maize and other cereals form as a rule the staple foods in the tropics, but they contain too small proportions of nitrogenous or proteid or flesh form-

ing substances, are deficient in oils or fats (the latter though not essential to life are very conducive to proper nutrition and health) also in mineral salts, and accordingly their deficiencies must be made up by an admixture with a small quantity of the leguminous grains, these, the pulses or grains and beans being particularly rich in nitrogenous or proteid principles supplement the deficiencies of the cereals, but for the latter reason can only be taken in limited quantities. Nitrogen is an essential constituent of living matter, it is present in every animal tissue, and fluid, and in all the living parts of plants, without it there can be no life and both animals and plants cease to exist, unless supplied by this element in adequate quantities and in a form that can be assimilated. In the writers opinion none of the other cereals will ever take the place of rice amongst the conservative Indian coolie and one can only hope that their introduction will prove an adjunct.

Rice, of all the cereals is the most deficient in nitrogenous elements, oil, and especially of mineral matter, and probably owes its popularity as an article of diet to custom and the digestibility of its starch grain. Kurakan or ragi is in every way superior to rice and if combined with a sufficiency of nitrogenous and oily substance forms an excellent food, it is however apt to disagree at first with those unaccustomed to its use. In parts of Mysore, Hyderabad, and many districts in Madras it is practically the staple article of diet, where it is eaten as porridge but is sometimes cooked in the following way—the ground grain is mixed with cold water and exposed to the sun until it becomes sour it is then boiled and allowed to cool forming into a jelly with a pleasant acid flavour, and is easily digested.

The composition of other cereals vary a good deal in different samples so that a moderate addition of nitrogenous and oily substances is required to render the millets perfect foods. They are certainly far superior to rice, and but little inferior to wheat as staple food grains.

Leguminous food grains often termed pulses, are the seeds of pod-bearing plants such as dhal, gram, beans and peas, and form valuable food material, they are principally remarkable for the large proportion of nitrogenous elements and for their comparative indigestibility, for the former reason they are extremely useful in supplementing the deficiencies in the cereal grains; but for the latter they can be eaten only in very limited quantity, the leguminous grains are as rich in nitrogenous substances as meat and fish, are also rich in carbohydrates—fats and oils—for instance, the groundnut contains over 50 per cent. of oil, and is best prepared as food by being roasted and husked. Animal foods are the most easily digestible and dried fish and dried meat contain nearly 50 per cent. more nitrogenous constituents than the same articles when fresh; salted and dried fish if the curing has been properly performed is welcome but unfortunately much of this valuable food is often only half cured and is eaten by coolies in a state of decomposition and causes intestinal derangement and sometimes death amongst them. Vegetables and fruits are of great importance in

diet, their special value depending not so much upon the amount of nutriment as upon the salts and vegetable acids which they contain.

The starchy and saccharine vegetables are usually tuberous or fleshy roots such as potato, yam, beet, carrot, onion and radish, these with fruits of a kindred nature such as bananas, plantations, &c., are of considerable food value. Even a short article on food would be incomplete without some reference to beverages, water, which may be described as the only essential drink is such an important subject that it would require an article all to itself; but fermented liquors may be mentioned such as toddy and arrack, the former is the juice of various palms such as the palmyra, date and cocoanut, it consists of water containing large quantities of sugar and a little albuminous matter in solution and shortly ferments, its sugar being converted into alcohol and carbon dioxide gas. Toddy averages about the same strength as light beer. Arrack is distilled from fermented toddy and contains about 40 per cent. of pure alcohol, by volume 30° under proof.

E. LANGLEY HUNT.

## GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATIONS.

### ANTHRAX.

This is a contagious disease, principally affecting cattle, but it may be communicated to all animals. Human beings may be inoculated, especially those engaged in making post-mortems or skinning dead cattle. It is caused by a microbe, the *Bacillus Anthracis*, which is found in the blood immediately after death in the form of short rods.

#### SYMPTOMS AND PREVENTION.

The attack and death is usually very sudden. An animal left well a few hours previously is found dead or dying; often blood oozes from the nostrils and anus. After death the carcass rapidly swells, and blood oozes from the nostrils and anus. In such cases suspicion should be aroused and precaution taken. The carcass should not be opened or blood allowed to contaminate the ground. It should be burned, if possible, if not, buried deeply, with quick lime or disinfectants.

Contaminated soil should be scraped off and buried with the carcass. The shed floor should be covered with strong disinfectant solution. Usually cases occur singly, and the disease does not spread if such precautions are taken.

#### DIAGNOSIS.

For diagnosis one ear may be pricked after death, before decomposition sets in, and one small drop of blood

smear very thinly on a glass microscopic slide, or failing this a piece of thin window glass. The smear must be transparent: it will dry in a minute or two. It should be wrapped in a piece of clean white paper, packed in a small tin, and forwarded to the Government Veterinary Surgeon, Colombo.

No treatment is of any avail.

G. W. STURGESS, M.R.C.V.S.,  
Government Veterinary Surgeon.  
Colombo, October 31st, 1913.

#### SURRA (Trypanosomiasis).

This is a disease due to the presence in the blood of small eel-like parasites (*Trypanosoma Evansi*). Both cattle and horses are affected, and sometimes dogs. The parasites develop in periods, each invasion resulting in fever and more weakness and emaciation.

The disease is spread by means of biting flies, which are commonly found around stables and cattle sheds, and breed in decaying manure.

#### SYMPTOMS.

**Horses.**—Fever, weakness, dropsical swellings about the sheath and abdomen, weakness of the loins, and staggering gait. These may pass off and return again in two or three weeks. Each attack leaves the animal weaker and more emaciated, until after two or three attacks the animal dies.

**CATTLE.**—The disease is more chronic than in horses. Fever, roughness of the coat, emaciation, whiteness of the membranes of the eye (anæmia), the animal presenting a miserable wasted appearance. Paralysis of hind quarters may occur. Death may result from exhaustion, or in convulsions.

#### DIAGNOSIS.

At the time of high fever, in the case of cattle one ear may be pricked and a thin transparent smear of blood

made on a glass microscopic slide. In the case of the horse, a small cut with a pair of scissors may be made in the skin of the chest, and a smear of blood made. The slides should be allowed to dry, be wrapped in clean white paper, separately, and forwarded to the Government Veterinary Surgeon, Colombo.

#### TREATMENT AND PREVENTION.

At present treatment is of little avail, and only carried out under expert supervision. It consists in the prolonged administration of arsenic.

Efforts should be made to reduce the biting flies by thoroughly cleaning away all manure from the sheds, and spreading lime. Animals should be protected from the flies by every means possible. Fly papers may be used in the sheds, and any harmless substance distasteful to flies lightly smeared on the animal's skin, such as—

Margosa .....	20 parts
Kerosine .....	1 part
Camphor .....	1 part
Citronella Oil .....	1 part

#### RED WATER (Piroplasmiasis).

This disease, also called "Tick fever," is due to the presence of parasites (piroplasis) in the blood.

#### SYMPTOMS.

High fever, constipation, anæmia, emaciation. The urine is commonly red, or brownish-red, or yellow in colour. The disease is transmitted by ticks, and efforts should be made to keep animals free from ticks, especially imported cattle. As in the case of Surra, blood smears should be sent for diagnosis when the fever is high.

G. W. STURGESS, M.R.C.V.S.  
Government Veterinary Surgeon.

Colombo, October 31st, 1913.

[Extract from the "Ceylon Government Gazette" No. 6,596 of December 12, 1913.]

#### Notice under "The Excise Ordinance, No. 8 of 1912."

List of Toddy Taverns proposed to be closed in the Kurunegala District

Present No.	Division.	Village.	Reason for closing.
51	Dambadeni hatpattu	Ihalawettewa	Owing to the temperance movement the renter could neither secure a site nor trees for tapping.
29	Hiriyala hatpattu	Kendawala	The renter was not able to obtain trees for tapping, as the villagers are all members of the temperance societies.
34	Do	Udattapola	Owing to the influence of the temperance societies in the neighbourhood the renter was not able to sell enough toddy cover his expenses.

The Government Agent, North-Western Province, will receive any written representation on the subject at the Kurunegala Kachcheri up to January 22, 1914, and will sit at the Kurunegala Kachcheri at 2 P.M. on January 23, 1914, to receive any verbal representation regarding the above-noted taverns.

Kurunegala Kachcheri,  
December 9, 1913.

W. L. KINDERSLEY,  
Government Agent.

[Extract from the "Ceylon Government Gazette" No. 6,598 of December 19, 1913.]

**No. 2,664, S. O.**—On Wednesday, February 18, 1914, at 12 noon, the Land Settlement Officer will put up for sale or settlement, at the Treasury Office, Chilaw, the under-mentioned portions of Crown land, on the terms authorized by Government. Two allotments of land situated in the Kinyama korale of the Katugampola hatpattu division of the Kurunegala District of the North-Western Province.

Block survey preliminary plan 1,411.—Karandapotana.

Lot.	Name of Land.	Name of Claimant or Applicant.	Description.	Extent.		
				A.	R.	P.
1	Karandapotanakele ...	... Crown ...	... Jungle	... 23	1	5
5	Karandapotanaheha ...	... do ...	... Chena	... 34	2	31

Upset price at Rs. 60 per acre. Further information regarding these lands can be obtained from the Land Settlement Officer, and plans of them from the Surveyor-General.

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo, December 12, 1913.

R. E. STUBBS,  
Colonial Secretary.

[Extract from the "Ceylon Government Gazette" No. 6,598 of December 19, 1913.]

**No. 2,666, S. O.**—On Wednesday, February 18, 1914, at 12 noon, the Land Settlement Officer will put up for sale or settlement, at the Kurunegala Kachcheri, the under-mentioned portion of Crown land, on the terms authorized by Government. An allotment of land situated in the Kinyama korale of the Katugampola hatpattu division of the Kurunegala District of the North-Western Province.

Block survey preliminary plan 1,413.—Diyakeliyawa.

Lot.	Name of Land.	Name of Claimant or Applicant.	Description.	Extent.		
				A.	R.	P.
4	Hiriwilahenyaya ...	... Crown ...	... Chena	... 20	3	34

Upset price at Rs. 40 an acre. Further information regarding this land can be obtained from the Land Settlement Officer, and plan of it from the Surveyor-General.

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo, December 12, 1913.

R. E. STUBBS,  
Colonial Secretary.

[Extract from the "Ceylon Government Gazette" No. 6,598 of December 19, 1913.]

**No. 2,674, S. O.**—On Wednesday, February 18, 1913, at 12 noon, the Land Settlement Officer will put up for sale or settlement, at Treasury Office, Chilaw, the under-mentioned portions of Crown land, on the terms authorized by Government. Eight allotments of land situated in the Kumarawanni pattu of the Demala hatpattu division of the Puttalam District of the North-Western Province.

Preliminary plan 3,968.—Methdaluwa.						Extent.		
Lot.	Name of Land.	Name of Claimant or Applicant.		Description.		A.	R.	P.
481	Methdaluwa	Crown,	claimed by Mudaliyar A. E. Rajapakse	Forest	...	444	2	0
488	Maithdaluwawela	do	...	Abandoned paddy	...	3	0	1
490	Dikwewa	do	...	Tank and bund (abandoned)	...	1	0	9
492	Milagahawewa	do	...	do (do)	...	1	0	30
494	Maithdaluwawewa	do	...	do (do)	...	9	3	28
496	Pitiya	do	...	Paddy field	...	2	0	36
498	Palugaswewa	do	...	Tank and bund (abandoned)	...	0	2	24
499	Puliyankulamewewa	do	...	do (do)	...	4	0	36

Upset price at Rs. 15 to Rs. 50 per acre. Further information regarding these lands can be obtained from the Land Settlement Officer, and plans of them from the Surveyor-General.

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo, December 13, 1913.

R. E. STUBBS,  
Colonial Secretary.

[Extract from the "Ceylon Government Gazette" No. 6,598 of December 19, 1913.]

**No. 2,655, S. O.**—On Tuesday, February 17, 1914, at 11 A.M., the Land Settlement Officer will put up for sale or settlement, at Bingiriya, the under-mentioned portions of Crown land, on the terms authorized by Government. Six allotments of land situated in the Kinyama korale of the Katugampola hatpattu division of the Kurunegala District of the North-Western Province.

Block survey preliminary plan 1,398.—Getulawa.						Extent.		
Lot.	Name of Land.	Name of Claimant or Applicant.		Description.		A.	R.	P.
1	Valiebbamukalana	Crown	...	Forest	...	116	2	2
3a	Lahapanebbawahena	do	...	Chena	...	20	2	13
3b	Do	do	...	do	...	20	2	20
29	Vellangollemukalana	do	...	Forest	...	39	0	11
57d	Habawewawatta	do	...	Garden	...	10	3	17
57h	Do	do	...	Chena and coconut	...	91	2	16

Upset price at Rs. 50 per acre. Further information regarding these lands can be obtained from the Land Settlement Officer, and plans of them from the Surveyor-General.

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo, December 12, 1913.

R. E. STUBBS,  
Colonial Secretary.

[Extract from the "Ceylon Government Gazette" No. 6,598 of December 19, 1913.]

**No. 2,661, S. O.**—On Saturday, February 21, 1914, at 12 noon, the Land Settlement Officer will put up for sale or settlement, at the Kurunegala Kachcheri, the under-mentioned portions of Crown land, on the terms authorized by Government. Six allotments of land situated in the Kinyama korale of the Katugampola hatpattu division of the Kurunegala District of the North-Western Province.

Block survey preliminary plan 1,395.—Molaeliya.						Extent.		
Lot.	Name of Land.	Name of Claimant.		Description.		A.	R.	P.
1	Paskotuwa	Crown	...	Chena	...	238	2	38
3d	Katukele	do	...	Forest	...	0	0	29
19	Polkatuyayamukalana	do	...	do.	...	408	1	18
1x	Paskotuwa	do	...	Chena	...	35	3	35
29	Kongahahena	do	...	do.	...	0	2	22
30	Divulgahahena	do	...	do.	...	33	1	5

Upset price at Rs. 15 to Rs. 50 per acre. Further information regarding these lands can be obtained from the Land Settlement Officer, and plans of them from the Surveyor-General.

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo, December 12, 1913.

R. E. STUBBS,  
Colonial Secretary.

[Extract from the "Ceylon Government Gazette" No. 6,598 of December 19, 1913.]

**No. 2,663, S. O.**—On Saturday, February 21, 1914, at 12 noon, the Land Settlement Officer will put up for sale or settlement, at the Kurunegala Kachcheri, the under-mentioned portion of Crown Land, on the terms authorized by Government. An allotment of land situated in the Kinyama korale of the Katugampola hatpattu division of the Kurunegala District of the North-Western Province.

Block survey preliminary plan 1,396.—Bogodayagama.						Extent.		
Lot.	Name of Land.	Name of Claimant or Applicant.		Description		A.	R.	P.
1	Vanahena	Crown	...	Chena	...	185	2	30

Upset price at Rs. 50 per acre. Further information regarding this land can be obtained from the Land Settlement Officer, and plan of it from the Surveyor-General.

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo, December 12, 1913.

R. E. STUBBS,  
Colonial Secretary.

## CEYLON MOUNTED RIFLES.

Strength Return for Month Ending December, 1913.

DETAIL.																						Instructional Staff.					
		Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants & 2nd Lieuts.	Quartermaster.	Total Officers.	Regtl. Sergt. Major.	Regtl. Q. M. Sergt.	Farr. Q. M. Sergt.	S. S. Majors.	Sergt. Tptra.	Sergeants.	Orderly Room Clerk.	Farr. Sergeants.	Corporals.	Trumpeters.	Shoeing Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Rank and File.	Total all Ranks.	Adjutant.	S. S. M. Instructor.	Sergt. Instructor.	Medical Officer.	Vet'y. Officer.	Total.
Regtl. Staff	1	...	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	7	1	1	1	...	...	3
A. Squadron																											
Staff	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	19	21	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" II. "	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	8	9	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" III. "	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	20	23	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" IV. "	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	3	3	1	21	29	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	...	2	...	4	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	1	6	5	1	68	85	91	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
B. Squadron																											
Staff	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	11	14	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" II. "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	12	15	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" III. "	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	17	20	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" IV. "	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	7	11	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	5	...	1	4	1	3	47	63	68	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Regt. Staff	...	1	...	1	1	4	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total A. Squadron	...	2	...	4	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	1	6	5	1	68	85	91	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total B. Squadron	...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	5	...	1	4	1	3	47	63	68	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Strength	...	1	3	2	8	1	15	1	1	1	2	2	7	...	2	10	6	4	115	151	168	1	1	1	...	...	3
Total Strength last Return	...	1	3	2	9	1	16	1	1	1	2	2	7	...	2	10	6	4	117	153	169	...	...	...	...	...	...
Increase Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Decrease Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
Establishment	...	1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	2	11	1	2	13	8	8	184	234	252	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wanting to Complete	...	...	...	1	2	...	3	...	...	...	...	2	4	1	...	3	2	4	69	83	86	...	...	...	...	...	...
Reserve	...	1	1	2	8	...	12	1	1	...	1	...	6	...	...	2	1	...	27	39	53	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total including Reserve	...	2	4	4	16	1	127	2	2	1	3	2	13	...	2	12	7	4	142	190	217	1	1	1	...	...	3

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,

Adj. C. M. R. &amp; C. P. R. C.

## STRENGTH RETURN.

## CEYLON PLANTERS' RIFLE CORPS.

FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1913.

Cor.	SECTION.	VOLUNTEER STAFF.							Total Strength of Corps exclusive of Permanent Staff.
		Lieut.-Colonel	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	2nd Lieutenants.	Adjutant.	Qr. Master.	
	Staff	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	4
A.	Kelany Valley	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	35
	Ratnapura	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	12
	Pelmadulla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
B.	Kandy	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	24
	Matale	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	17
	Madulkelle	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	8
C.	Rangalla	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	12
	Mattakelle	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	9
	Agrapatna	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	6
D.	Kotagalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
	Darawella	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
	Maskeliya	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	10
E.	Bogawantalawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
	Nuwara Eliya	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
	Madulsima	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
F.	Haputale	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	17
	Badulla	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	20
	Uda Pussellawa	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	9
G.	Batticaloa	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	7
	Kalutara	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	23
	Kurunegalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
H.	Galle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
	Morawak Korale	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
	Anuradhapura	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	11
I.	Trincomalie	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Colombo	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	43
	Ambegamuwa	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	7
J.	Pussellawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
	Dolosbage	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	10
	Colombo	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	53
K.	Motor Cycle Section	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	16
	* TOTAL STRENGTH	...	...	1	2	9	6	7	2
	Strength by last Return	...	...	1	2	8	7	7	2
	Increase Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Decrease Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	* C. P. R. C. Reserve Officers 9, Rank & File	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
	Total Strength including Reserve	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	553

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,  
Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.



**NOTICE.****Advertising for Bolters.**

The Coast Agency Committee discussed at the September Meeting the expediency of advertising in the Newspapers offering rewards for coolies who have absconded or bolted.

It was decided that this practice is inadvisable and the Secretary was directed to publish this decision in the *Planting Gazette*.

JOHN STILL,  
Secretary,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

**NOTICE.****Tickets on the Railway.**

I am requested by the Ceylon Labour Commissioner to bring to the notice of the Planters the fact that through Tickets (inclusive of steamer fare) can be booked from any Railway Station in Ceylon to any Station of the South Indian Railway. It is not necessary therefore to make large advances in Ceylon to coolies or kangannies proceeding to India to recruit.

JOHN STILL,  
Secretary,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

**NOTICE.****A Forms.**

The following resolution was passed at the Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held on the 12th September, 1913.

JOHN STILL,  
Secretary,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

(Resolution referred to.)

"That subscribers should be informed that clause (a) on the back of the A. Form should be deleted, as, in the opinion of our legal adviser, this might be taken to grant leave for a period exceeding the one month for which a coolie's contract with his employer exists. This is to be notified in the *Planting Gazette* and to all District Planters' Associations. The Ceylon Labour Commissioner is to be instructed to omit this clause in future editions of the A. Form."

**NOTICE.**

I would strongly advise superintendents of Estates subscribing to the Coast Agency Scheme who either contemplate or are in course of making arrangements with re-

cruiters in South India either European or Indian to act as their Agents during the forthcoming recruiting season, to communicate with me prior to completing such arrangements. I have every facility for acquiring reliable information and am thus enabled to protect the interests of those whom I represent and serve in this country.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,  
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Trichinopoly,  
14th October, 1913.

**NOTICE.**

Resolution passed at a Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held at Kandy on Friday, the 9th January, 1913.

**Coast Agency Cess.**

"That three reminders only be sent out—viz. one each in January, February and March and that the Ceylon Labour Commissioner shall be instructed to refuse assistance to any estate which has not paid its subscription by the end of March. This to be notified in the *Planters' Gazette*.

JOHN STILL,  
Secretary P.A. of Ceylon.

**CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION.****RECRUITING FIGURES FOR DECEMBER, 1913.**

97,564 coolies have been registered at the Agencies of this Commission during the year 1913 as against 93,925 in 1912, which is an increase of 3,639. During the month of December 4,509 coolies passed through as against 5,393 during December, 1912. Since September recruiting has very appreciably fallen off and figures as compared with the similar months of last year show a steady decline. There have been many contributory causes, but the chief factor has been climatic conditions. During December there was a recrudescence of floods in various parts of the Presidency which again dislocated Railway Traffic.

IN CHITTOOR there has been a lot of rain and the tanks are full. There will probably be little recruiting until March.

ERODE shows a decrease for the year of approximately 215 coolies. This is due to a certain extent to the fact that some kangannies recruiting in the Coimbatore District bring coolies direct to Trichinopoly or other Agencies south of Erode to be registered, in order, if possible, to escape segregation.

CHINGLEPUT.—Heavy rains have done a lot of damage in this District and any good done by the rain itself will be largely counteracted, and it is reasonable to hope that future returns from this Agency will go up again. The total figures for the year show a very small decrease.

**PALGHAT.**—This Agency shows a fairly large decrease which, in a great measure, can be attributed to the new Agency at Cannanore. It is apparently a little difficult to account for the general decrease from Malabar as the paddy crop has been but an average one. It is probable that less kanganies have been recruiting in Malabar this year.

**KARUR.**—The rains have been unseasonable and a great deal of work had to be done in fields during the last quarter; consequently labour has not been available for Ceylon.

**VILLUPURAM.**—This Agency, similar to Madura, continues to show an increase. Very little damage appears to have been done to either crops or tanks. The people are very busy just now in fields, chiefly with the ground-nut crops and recruiting will probably receive a temporary check.

**MADURA.**—The increase from this centre can be attributed probably to the rise in prices in and about Madura, the labourers finding it difficult to live there. Numbers are going to Burmah daily. Kanganies having connections in Madura should be sent over during the forthcoming recruiting season. Further information can be gleaned from the usual monthly recruiting prospects Reports.

labour. Through tickets being booked by my Agent do away with the necessity of giving anything appreciable in the way of cash advances prior to leaving the Estates. All payments can therefore be made on this side. A large sum of local money-lenders and Kadai keepers prior to the recruiting of local money-lenders and Kadai keepers prior to the recruiter leaving the Estate for South India will thus be saved, as also a large amount of money which has previously been annually extorted from coolies in Colombo and Tuticorin. In opening this forwarding Agency, I have to acknowledge courtesy and promised assistance from the Acting Inspector-General of Police and the General Manager of the Ceylon Government Railway. Any complaints in connection with this forwarding Agency should be immediately brought to my notice and will receive the promptest attention. The forwarding agency is situated at the corner of Skinner's Road, a few minutes walk from Maradana Junction. The premises are of a more or less temporary nature until it is seen what effect the Indo-Ceylon route via Polgahawella has upon the traffic to South India, as also the amount of patronage given to the scheme by Estates using this Commission.

### COMMISSIONER'S NOTES.

**BOLTING AFTER REGISTRATION.**—This continues to a certain extent at Katpady, Chittoor, Arkonam and Erode. Katpady is the worst centre in this respect in spite of many changes of Agents. As I am dealing with this question in my Annual Report, I will not go further into the matter here, but no doubt, Superintendents will consider the advisability of refusing to give "A" Forms on these Agencies where they are fully aware their kanganies have no village connection as it simply means that they are deliberately going up to deal with professional recruiters.

**FREE PASSAGES TO ESTATE.**—In all cases where I have been advised that coolies' fare and expenses to Ceylon are borne by the Estate, that fact is carefully explained to the new cooly, and he is told that the whole total of his debit on arrival at the Estate is represented by the sum of Re. 1 or so which is given him by the kangany out of his commission for petty way expenses.

I think that if the knowledge that passages were free were more widespread, it would have a beneficial effect on recruiting, and if Superintendents will endorse on their A. Forms that passages are paid, I shall see that my Agents are careful to so inform the coolies and also their relatives and friends who come to the Agencies with them to see them off.

**COLOMBO FORWARDING AGENCY.**—Books of tickets having been forwarded to subscribing Estates the above Agency was opened on the 5th instant and coolies are passing through already in small numbers. I strongly recommend Superintendents to utilise this system, as it affords protection to their kanganies and coolies on their way to India to recruit

### COMMISSIONER'S CAMPING.

12th January 1914.

**Mandapam Cooly Camp at Toniturai:** On the 16th ultimo in company with Mr. F. Bowes, Principal Collector of Customs, the Hon. Dr. Rutherford, Acting P.C.M.O., the Assistant Government Agent of Mannar, and Mr. H. G. Cran, newly appointed Superintendent of the above camp, I inspected the Temporary buildings for the accommodation and segregation of all labour passing through to Ceylon, when the Indo-Ceylon connection is opened for through traffic. We were shown round by Mr. O'Shaughnessy, the South Indian Railway Construction Engineer, who has in hand the erection of both the Temporary and Permanent Camps, and we received every courtesy and assistance at his hands. In the Temporary Camp there is ample accommodation for a good many more coolies than will probably pass through during the next 12 months unless anything unforeseen happens in the shape of famine which is highly improbable judging by the recent rains.

The cooly sheds have been divided off into 8 blocks and are built with cement flooring and cadjan walls and roof. A central kitchen is in course of construction adjacent to the Railway Line. The old idea of permitting coolies to cook their own food has, I am glad to say, been abandoned, as it is a system quite unnecessary and does not tend to a high standard of cleanliness. There are quarters for 3rd-class passengers, also for the various Indian Officials, Clerks, Peons, Watchmen, Police, &c. At the end of the camp in the direction of the Viaduct, there is a well-equipped dispensary, hospital and small-pox camp, well away from the main buildings. The Camp is well lighted with Washington Lights.

The reason for my visit irrespective of interest in the arrangements for coolies was to arrange for offices for this Commission and accommodation for my Agent, clerks and peons, and these buildings are now in course of construction, my requirements in this connection being very sympathetically met by the Ceylon Government officials.

The office consists of three rooms with verandah and will be situated in close proximity to coolies quarters.

**PERMANENT CAMP.**—On the same day I took the opportunity of again visiting the site of this camp and found that a start had already been made with some of the buildings and there is little doubt that this camp will be completed in a far shorter period than was at first anticipated. The plans of this camp are of a very comprehensive nature and they indicate that nothing has been left out of a scheme which should minimise to the utmost the chance of epidemic, and ensure that coolies recruited from South India shall be as well cared for, as it is possible for them to be. A suitable permanent office will be erected for the use of this Commission, as also quarters for the officials and on my visit of inspection, I took the opportunity of indicating approximately what I required in this respect.

**PAMBAN VIADUCT.**—By the kind courtesy of the Construction Engineer, who has practically completed the Indian portion of the Indo-Ceylon connection, I was permitted to make a trip across this viaduct by train and to be initiated into the working of the Scherzer Bridge. The total weight of this bridge including the anchorage is no less than 450 tons, the weight of the bridge itself being 380 and having a span of 175 feet. The gearing is so perfect that it can be worked by hand.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,  
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

#### December Camp.

Salem,  
10th January, 1914.

DEAR SIR,

On the 12th December, I set out on a tour in Omalur and Dharmapuri Taluks, and on the way to my first camp in the former Taluk, I stopped at the village of Puliam-patty. The people of this village, who are agriculturists informed me that they were fully employed in the local Magnesite Works, and had lands of their own, and, though Debts ranged from Rs. 10 upwards they were quite satisfied with their lot. I was however informed that about 15 people were anxious to emigrate from the village next door, about two furlongs away.

On the 13th I made a detour, round, visiting a village called Taramangalam which consists of about 300 houses, nearly almost all of which are occupied by weavers. Local wages are from 2 to 2½ annas a day, and between 30 and 40 persons have gone to Ceylon. The debts are very small and if good connections can be established, the class of cooly good. The next village I visited, a very small one, was Palanigavundapur, populated entirely by Padayachis who are all agriculturists having their own

lands. They accepted the Notices, but seemed rather indifferent. The next place I stopped at was Pappambadi, a village consisting of about 150 houses, populated for the most part by agriculturists Padayachis. The village debts varied from Rs. 100 to 300 and a few of the villagers have gone to Ceylon. I noticed that the people seemed rather disinterested in Ceylon emigration. On asking the reason, I was informed that they were under the impression that the water was bad over there and would not agree with them. After I had explained fully that it was quite the opposite, and all the other advantages attached to their working in Ceylon, I think they showed considerably more interest than at first. I then visited Muniampatty, a village of about 30 houses, nearly all the inhabitants of which are independent agriculturists. The local wages are 2 annas and village debts from Rs. 5 to Rs. 20. Those who had gathered round me did not seem particularly keen, but this I think was mainly due to their knowing very little about Ceylon before this. The next village I visited was Malayampolayam, which has about 70 houses and is populated by weavers, two or three of whom have gone to Ceylon. Their local debts are from Rs. 100 to Rs. 200, and unless good connections can be established, I am afraid they would not be very keen to emigrate.

On the 14th I set out again from Omalur along a terrible road, and visited a village called Mecheri. From this place about 100 persons have gone over to Ceylon, many of whom have returned with excellent reports of their treatment, with the result that others have gone back to their estates with them, and my general impression was that most of the people seemed keen to go. On the other hand, I received several complaints that people had been persuaded to leave their homes without first informing their parents that they were doing so, and that though they had debts, the recruiters refused to pay them. It was also breathed that false debts are piled on by kangannies when they arrive in Ceylon. The village debts here are from Rs. 10 to Rs. 100. I might here take the opportunity of adding that I have made a point of well rubbing in at every turn I could, that the day of the dishonest kangany is at an end.

On the 15th I visited Nangavally, the greater part of the road to which was terribly hilly and very bad. The village debts in this place are from Rs. 10 to Rs. 100, and though about 30 people have gone to Ceylon, I hear that kangannies have a very bad time of it when they come here. The local wages are from 3 to 4 annas.

On the 17th I left Omalur Taluk to Dharmapuri. At Omalur itself I interviewed the village Munsiff, who informed me that about 20 had been from here to Ceylon and come back again, though the general population is well-off. He also informed me that several kangannies who had come here to recruit had greatly exaggerated facts and had caused considerable dissatisfaction by not telling the truth to those who had agreed to go with them. There were people who were keen to go to Ceylon if they could be sure that all they heard over here about Ceylon was the truth. Local debts ranged from Rs. 10 to Rs. 300.

The next village which I stopped; Poojaripatty, has sent about 20 people to Ceylon and nearly 200 have gone from the surrounding hamlets. The local debts range from Rs. 10 to Rs. 100, and the people talk freely of Ceylon and seem very pleased as their friends have returned with good accounts and taken others back with them. I next stopped at Thoppur, which is half way between Omalur and Dharmapuri at the foot of the Thopur Ghat. The people who clustered round me here were very interested in every thing they saw and heard and struck me as being extremely keen to go. Many of them said that if an European came to the village to recruit them they would gladly go, but not if kanganies came, as they feared that the latter would misrepresent facts and would ultimately sell them to recruiters for some other country. Their debts are from Rs. 10 to Rs. 200. At the next place, Lakiampatty, the local wages are from 2 to 3 annas, and local debts from Rs. 20 to Rs. 400 and about 10 have gone to Ceylon. They seemed very indifferent to all I said and hardly worried to look at the Notices.

On the 18th I started out from Dharmapuri and visited a village called Nalapurampatty, which consists of about 40 houses of agriculturists. No one has been to Ceylon from here, and the local debts, which are very few, are anything up to Rs. 20. They have had very little rain, and the crops are in consequence in a very poor state. People seemed afraid of emigration here, more on account of lack of proper knowledge of the result of doing so than from any bad reports that may have reached them. I think it would require a few bolder than the rest, to set the example first, before many could be induced to leave their village. At the next village, Valinjapatty, having about 60 houses and populated mostly by independent agriculturists, the cool classes have no debts and the local wages are 2 annas a day. Crops are in a fair condition though there has been little rain. There was not much enthusiasm shown towards Ceylon Emigration. From the next village, Papparapatty, a great many have gone to Penang and the Straits, and a few kanganies from Ceylon come here periodically. The village is a large one and a Union. The general population is rich and crops are good owing to plenty of rain. The debts of the cool classes vary from Rs. 10 to Rs. 50, and a certain amount of labour is available. I next visited Adagapaddi, consisting of agriculturists and about 100 houses in all. About 7 people have gone to Ceylon from here, and from what I could gather, the debts are very small. They had not heard of anything from those who had left them. At Nathapatty, the local debts are from Rs. 20 to Rs. 200 and one or two of the agriculturists, of whom there are about 50 houses, have emigrated to Ceylon. The villagers are not keen on emigration as their crops are good and they have had rain, and further, they did not seem to be much impressed as those friends who had left them had not corresponded with them. At the next two villages Induragraharam and Indur, the village debts are from Rs. 50 to Rs. 60. A few have emigrated to Ceylon from the former village. Most of the

people have lands of their own and a few seemed rather keen on going. Local wages are from annas 2 to annas 4 a day and a great many paria coolies have gone to Ceylon from the surrounding villages. At the next village I stopped at, Belianooragraharam, consisting of about 100 houses of mostly agriculturists, I was told that the crops had almost failed and that they had had a very bad harvest. The people seemed extremely keen to know all about Ceylon, though they were afraid to go unless some one set the example, and wrote or returned with good reports from there. In which case I feel sure that a great deal of labour could be got from this place. Their village debts do not exceed Rs. 50. At Pennageram, a Union of about 1,500 houses, I distributed a great many notices to the crowds who had gathered there for the weekly shandy or market day. Debts are small and local wages from annas 2½ to annas 3 a day, and they have only had semicrops owing to the scarcity of rain this year. Many assured me that they were keen to emigrate to Ceylon.

On the 19th I went out to the village of Sogathur. There has been very little rain here also though crops are in a fair state. The local labourer incurs no debt. At Errapatty, consisting of 100 houses of agriculturists, the local wages are from 1 anna to 2 annas a day and no one has been to Ceylon. Only the Land owners incur debts and their crops this year are poor for want of rain. At the next village Oddapatty, there are no debts and most of the cool classes earn a livelihood by cutting Bamboos on the adjacent hills. Of the two who have gone to Ceylon from here one returned and went to Penang as the villagers told me he said he could get better wages there. The above mentioned three villages might be tried for recruiting purposes during the coming season.

On the 20th I started out to Ilyadhrampuri, a village of agriculturists who said they had no desire to leave their village, as their debts were very small and they got good wages from annas 2 to annas 4 per head. From Kariamangalam, a large Union village, a great many have gone to Ceylon, Penang and the Nilgiris, though the local wages are from annas 3 to annas 4 per head. Crops are in a very poor state and the people are very eager to go to Ceylon, and clamoured for the Notices, of which I distributed a great number. At Mottur, a village of about 11 houses, all agriculturists, the crops are poor and they have had very little rain. No one is keen to leave their village as they have lands of their own and sufficient to live on. At Tellanhalli, a village of vellalas, I learnt that most of the villagers who are independent Landlords, are rich and therefore not keen on emigration. At the village of Thippampatty, none of the padayachis, of whom the village consists, have gone to Ceylon, and all have lands and debts below Rs. 20, they were not at all keen. At the next village I visited, Muthupatty, the village debts vary from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100, and though crops are in a poor state and they have had practically no rain for the past three years, they did not seem interested in Ceylon. The last village I visited on this date was Seerampatty, a village of Padayachis, none of whom have gone to Ceylon,

have had good rain and a moderate harvest and no one has emigrated from here. They said they were not keen on leaving their village as they have enough to do on their own lands. Hanumanthapuram, a village of cheetties and other castes of 500 houses has sent from 10 to 15 of its inhabitants to Ceylon. Local wages are from annas 3 to annas 4 per head. Interest was lacking as there was plenty of work to be done in the fields. I visited Kariamangalam again on this date as the weekly shandy was on, and distributed a large number of notices to the people who had gathered there from all the surrounding cross country villages.

On the 24th I returned to Salem by rail from Dhar-  
mapuri, having covered by road 281 miles and by rail 60  
miles during my tour. Unfortunately my motor cycle  
broke down some days before the end of my tour, which  
necessitated its having to be sent to Madras and cur-  
tailed my travelling to some extent or I should have done  
a great many more than 281 miles. I am afraid that my  
report looks as if Recruiting Prospects were not very bright  
in most of the villages I visited, but it has been rather diffi-  
cult in the last month or so to awaken much interest in  
many of the villages, by reason of the harvesting and  
cultivation which, during the last few months has been  
in full swing. I cannot help feeling however that the  
partial interest shown in many of the above places would  
turn into a lively interest, were superintendents them-  
selves, being Europeans, to follow in the wake of notices  
and information that I have left behind me deeply im-  
pressed all over the country in which I have so far toured.  
In several places it was impressed on me that if an Euro-  
pean went there and recruited himself, and not kanganies,  
of whom most of the villagers have such a fearful dread,  
would be much more likely to secure genuine labour  
himself, and I know would leave that good impression of  
Ceylon behind in the village from which he had recruited,  
which I feel certain is so essential if it is hoped that any  
more will follow the example of leaving their village for better  
wages, set by those who have been bold enough to take  
the first step.

Yours faithfully,  
E. B. LEVINGE,  
Assistant Commissioner.

On the 23rd I went to Timmampatty, a village of about 90 houses and composed of agriculturists and oddas. The local wages are from annas 4 to annas 5 a head, and village debts are not very great. No one has been to Ceylon, and as good wages can be earned, they said that no one wanted to go. At the next village I visited Thoddar-thanahalli, I was informed that the population, most of whom are agriculturists, are getting annas 3 at present and get from annas 1½ to annas 2½ at other times. They

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY.

COOLY STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1913.

AGENCIES.		PREVIOUSLY.					NOVEMBER.					TOTAL.		G. TOTAL.			
HEADQUARTERS CIRCLE:—		M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	
1.	Trichinopoly	...	21,119	7,392	7,020	2,590	38,121	906	224	190	66	1,386	22,025	7,616	7,210	2,656	39,507
2.	Tanjore	...	1,589	401	206	131	2,327	104	38	6	11	159	1,693	439	212	142	2,486
3.	Turaiyur	...	424	211	161	93	889	30	7	7	2	46	454	218	168	95	935
4.	Musiri	...	493	220	236	87	1,036	24	11	7	3	45	517	231	243	90	1,081
5.	Puducottah	...	1,395	417	456	150	2,418	96	28	12	6	142	1,491	445	468	156	2,560
6.	Manapargi	...	1,613	502	324	100	2,739	63	6	8	0	77	1,876	508	332	100	2,816
			26,833	9,143	8,403	3,151	47,530	1,223	314	230	88	1,855	28,056	9,457	8,633	3,239	49,385

## COOLY STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1913.

## MADURA CIRCLE:—

MADURA CIRCLE:—		M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.		
7.	Tataparai	...	...	3,869	1,230	806	449	6,354	212	59	28	19	316	4,081	1,289	832	468	6,670
8.	Madura	...	...	3,257	1,079	691	235	5,262	236	72	45	18	371	3,493	1,151	736	253	5,633
9.	Tinnevely	...	...	1,852	395	365	144	2,756	180	29	24	6	239	2,032	424	389	150	2,995
10.	Ammapatnam	...	...	779	249	190	59	1,277	41	18	9	5	73	820	267	199	64	1,350
11.	Tondi	...	...	1,528	536	214	176	2,454	154	49	24	15	242	1,682	585	238	191	2,696
12.	Pamban	...	...	305	145	108	57	615	16	5	8	1	30	321	150	118	58	645
				11,590	3,634	2,374	1,120	18,718	839	232	136	64	1,271	12,429	3,866	2,510	1,184	19,989

## CHITTOOR CIRCLE:—

13. Chingleput	...	...	2,087	838	333	316	3,574	106	39	9	13	167	2,193	877	342	329	3,741
14. Arkonam	...	...	1,301	559	167	205	2,232	123	31	11	18	183	1,424	590	178	223	2,415
15. Villupuram	...	...	2,828	1,020	388	344	4,580	166	50	18	22	256	2,994	1,070	406	366	4,836
17. Coconada	...	...	26	19	10	3	58	..	closed	closed	..	..	26	19	10	3	58
16. Katpadi	...	...	1,901	768	249	224	3,142	74	32	13	12	131	1,975	800	262	236	3,273
18. Cuddapah	...	...	378	135	40	42	595	14	1	0	0	15	392	136	40	42	610
19. Nellore	...	...	115	31	9	6	161	11	9	8	5	33	126	40	17	11	19
20. Guntur	...	...	102	43	21	11	177	3	1	0	1	5	105	44	21	12	182
21. Chittoor	...	...	79	29	15	8	131	2	0	0	0	2	81	29	15	8	133
			8,817	3,442	1,232	1,159	14,650	499	163	59	71	792	9,316	3,605	1,291	1,230	15,442

## SALEM CIRCLE:—

SALEM CIRCLE:--																	
22. Salem	...	...	1,080	326	212	110	1,728	31	10	2	1	44	1,111	336	214	111	1,772
23. Bangalore	...	...	220	33	7	11	271	15	2	2	1	20	235	35	9	12	291
24. Guntakal	...	...	532	136	57	29	754	12	5	3	1	21	544	141	60	30	775
25. Hubli	...	...	28	8	8	2	46	...	closed	closed	...	...	28	8	8	2	46
26. Tirupatur	...	...	111	45	21	20	197	1	1	0	0	2	112	46	21	20	199
27. Namakal	...	...	413	129	90	30	662	28	8	1	1	38	441	137	91	31	700
28. Dharmapuri	...	...	211	72	30	29	342	17	4	2	1	24	228	78	32	30	366
29. Atur	...	...	274	95	54	49	472	15	1	1	0	17	289	96	55	49	489
30. Nanjangud	...	...	132	32	11	6	181	10	4	3	0	17	142	36	14	6	198
[3,001 876 490 266 4,653 129 35 14 5 183 3,130 911 504 291 4,836																	

## PALGHAT CIRCLE:—

PALGHAT CIRCLE:—																	
31. Erode	...	...	1,363	389	159	151	2,062	63	15	2	3	83	1,426	404	161	154	2,145
32. Dindigul	...	...	1,796	619	257	179	2,851	112	26	20	7	165	1,908	645	277	186	3,016
33. Karur	...	...	702	195	177	71	1,145	45	15	3	5	68	747	210	180	76	1,213
34. Palghat	...	...	903	124	81	35	1,143	58	2	1	0	61	961	126	82	35	1,204
35. Tirur	...	...	14	4	2	1	21	...	closed	closed	...	...	14	4	2	1	21
36. Cannanore	...	...	214	33	25	10	282	24	7	0	0	31	238	40	25	10	313
TOTAL.			4,992	1,364	701	447	7,504	302	65	26	15	408	5,294	1,429	727	462	7,912

## GRAND TOTAL.

55,233 18,459 13,200 6,163 93,055 2,992 809 465 243 4,509 58,225 19,268 13,665 6,406 97,564  
 (93,055) (4,509) 1912.....93,925

## CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY.

Comparative Statement showing the number of Coolies despatched monthly from each Agency during 1912 and 1913.

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	Mar.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.	
Headquarter Circle.													
Trichinopoly	1912	740	1,036	1,776	1,556	3,332	3,276	6,608	6,057	12,665	6,088	18,753	
"	1913	994	1,201	2,195	1,453	3,648	4,081	7,729	7,639	15,368	7,193	22,561	
Tanjore	1912	42	94	136	165	301	231	532	347	879	323	1,202	
"	1913	109	146	255	149	404	192	596	347	943	447	1,390	
Turaiyur	1912	5	32	37	6	43	28	71	137	208	215	423	
"	1913	5	27	32	49	81	79	160	159	319	233	552	
Musiri	1912	3	15	18	29	47	39	86	142	228	109	337	
"	1913	20	4	24	8	32	132	164	202	366	206	572	
Puducottah	1912	89	108	197	121	318	166	484	214	698	348	1,046	
"	1913	56	111	167	65	232	228	460	308	768	437	1,205	
Manaparai	1912	111	103	214	135	349	129	478	344	822	297	1,119	
"	1913	224	141	365	171	536	308	844	425	1,269	446	1,715	
Total	1912	990	1,388	2,378	2,012	4,390	3,869	8,259	7,241	15,500	7,380	22,880	
"	1913	1,408	1,630	3,038	1,895	4,933	5,020	9,953	9,080	19,033	8,962	27,995	
Agencies.	Years.	July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.	Oct.	Total.	Nov.	Total.	Dec.	Total.
Trichinopoly	1912	4,529	23,282	3,760	27,042	3,650	30,692	3,508	34,200	1,564	35,764	1,698	37,462
"	1913	4,723	27,284	3,772	31,056	3,410	34,466	2,173	36,639	1,482	38,121	1,386	39,507
Tanjore	1912	259	1,461	175	1,636	246	1,882	194	2,076	146	2,222	148	2,370
"	1913	318	1,708	160	1,868	213	2,081	121	2,202	125	2,327	159	2,486
Turaiyur	1912	104	527	41	568	96	664	50	714	18	732	18	750
"	1913	139	691	83	774	55	829	43	872	17	889	46	935
Musiri	1912	87	424	52	476	32	508	78	586	14	600	19	619
"	1913	177	749	122	871	82	953	54	1,007	29	1,036	45	1,081
Puducottah	1912	272	1,318	339	1,657	605	2,262	430	2,692	196	2,888	284	3,172
"	1913	277	1,482	247	1,729	327	2,056	161	2,217	201	2,418	142	2,560
Manaparai	1912	319	1,438	331	1,769	272	2,041	320	2,361	136	2,497	208	2,705
"	1913	438	2,153	168	2,321	107	2,428	52	2,480	59	2,539	77	2,616
Total	1912	5,570	28,450	4,698	33,148	4,901	38,049	4,580	42,629	2,074	44,703	2,375	47,078
"	1913	6,072	34,067	4,752	38,819	4,194	43,013	2,604	45,617	1,913	47,530	1,855	49,385
Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	Mar.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.	
Chittoor Circle.													
Chingleput	1912	120	105	225	136	361	305	666	287	953	562	1,515	
"	1913	99	132	231	228	459	424	883	440	1,318	492	1,810	
Arkonam	1912	201	67	268	56	324	154	478	272	750	264	1,014	
"	1913	87	112	199	78	277	164	441	240	681	342	1,023	
Villupuram	1912	118	156	274	266	540	325	865	412	1,277	501	1,778	
"	1913	166	177	343	328	671	388	1,059	682	1,741	654	2,395	
Katpady	1912	216	257	473	140	613	177	790	292	1,082	415	1,497	
"	1913	252	231	483	150	633	245	878	385	1,263	342	1,605	
Coconada	1912	...	19	19	10	29	29	58	11	69	49	118	
"	1913	6	15	21	37	58	closed	58	closed	58	closed	58	
Cuddapah	1912	4	11	15	22	37	2	39	34	73	22	95	
"	1913	15	2	17	13	30	20	50	23	73	171	244	
Nellore	1912	9	...	9	18	27	2	29	...	29	29	58	
"	1913	17	25	42	52	94	9	103	17	120	6	126	
Guntur	1912	...	63	63	8	71	155	226	43	269	27	296	
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	22	22	5	27	111	138	
Chittoor	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
"	1918	...	...	...	2	2	13	15	14	29	22	41	
Anantapur	1912	89	24	113	13	126	...	126	...	126	...	126	
"	1913	closed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Total	1912	757	702	1,459	669	2,128	1,149	3,277	1,351	4,628	1,869	6,497	
"	1913	642	694	1,336	883	2,219	1,285	3,504	1,806	5,310	2,140	7,450	

Agencies.	Years.	July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.	Oct.	Total.	Nov.	Total.	Dec.	Total.
<b>Chittoor Circle.</b>													
Chingleput	... 1912	505	2,020	437	2,457	409	2,866	576	3,442	194	3,636	176	3,812
"	... 1913	556	2,366	422	2,788	405	3,193	216	3,409	165	3,574	167	3,741
Arkonam	... 1912	287	1,301	311	1,612	278	1,890	220	2,110	134	2,244	157	2,401
"	... 1913	368	1,391	258	1,649	275	1,924	179	2,103	129	2,232	183	2,415
Villupuram	... 1912	618	2,396	629	3,025	592	3,617	423	4,040	183	4,223	198	4,421
"	... 1913	582	2,977	544	3,521	531	4,052	294	4,346	234	4,580	256	4,836
Katpady	... 1912	577	2,074	499	2,573	591	3,164	422	3,586	337	3,923	257	4,180
"	... 1913	320	1,925	387	2,312	387	2,699	288	2,987	155	3,142	131	3,273
Coconada	... 1912	38	156	15	171	...	171	7	178	...	178	7	185
"	... 1913	closed	58	closed	58	closed	58	closed	58	closed	58	closed	58
Indrapah	... 1912	37	132	18	150	26	176	20	196	12	208	6	214
"	... 1913	132	376	18	394	46	440	90	530	65	595	15	610
Jellore	... 1912	9	67	...	67	...	67	8	75	5	80	16	96
"	... 1913	13	139	2	141	6	147	13	160	1	161	33	194
Juntur	... 1912	33	329	8	337	...	337	59	396	48	444	...	444
"	... 1913	3	141	14	155	11	166	10	176	1	177	5	182
Chittoor	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
"	... 1913	27	78	32	110	15	125	5	130	1	131	2	133
Anantapur	... 1912	...	126	...	126	...	126	...	126	...	126	...	126
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	... 1912	2,104	8,601	1,917	10,518	1,896	12,414	1,735	14,149	913	15,062	820	15,882
"	... 1913	2,001	9,451	1,677	11,128	1,676	12,804	1,095	13,899	751	14,650	792	15,442

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	Mar.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.
<b>Madura Circle.</b>												
Tataparai	... 1912	256	191	447	312	759	265	1,024	522	1,546	607	2,153
"	... 1913	267	352	619	433	1,052	761	1,813	741	2,554	801	3,355
Madura	... 1912	275	255	530	293	823	355	1,178	603	1,781	563	2,344
"	... 1913	220	162	382	149	531	421	952	787	1,739	766	2,505
Tinnevely	... 1912	94	122	216	136	352	174	526	247	773	291	1,064
"	... 1913	121	88	209	147	356	238	594	364	958	399	1,357
Ammapatam	... 1912	8	54	62	60	122	119	241	142	383	240	623
"	... 1913	43	43	86	49	135	130	265	179	444	174	618
Tondi	... 1912	109	177	286	134	420	329	749	321	1,070	860	1,430
"	... 1913	111	109	220	129	349	215	564	406	970	439	1,409
Pamban	... 1912	8	14	22	89	111	20	131	70	201	93	294
"	... 1913	11	17	28	75	103	43	146	78	224	68	292
Total	... 1912	750	813	1,563	1,024	2,587	1,262	3,849	1,905	5,754	2,154	7,908
"	... 1913	773	771	1,544	982	2,526	1,808	4,334	2,555	6,889	2,647	9,536

Agencies.	Years.	July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.	Oct.	Total.	Nov.	Total.	Dec.	Total.
Tataparai	... 1912	573	2,726	511	3,237	446	3,683	463	4,146	514	4,660	448	5,108
"	... 1913	678	4,033	620	4,653	742	5,395	558	5,953	401	6,354	316	6,670
Madura	... 1912	537	2,881	689	3,570	624	4,194	534	4,728	281	4,959	304	5,263
"	... 1913	616	3,121	609	3,730	577	4,307	476	4,783	479	5,262	371	5,633
Tinnevely	... 1912	340	1,404	260	1,664	192	1,856	233	2,089	153	2,242	165	2,407
"	... 1913	400	1,757	251	2,008	289	2,297	312	2,609	147	2,756	239	2,995
Ammapatam	... 1912	228	851	138	989	15	1,004	51	1,055	24	1,079	100	1,179
"	... 1913	109	727	183	910	141	1,051	120	1,171	106	1,277	73	1,350
Tondi	... 1912	423	1,853	204	2,057	585	2,642	375	3,017	164	3,181	241	3,422
"	... 1913	402	1,811	150	1,961	257	2,218	174	2,392	62	2,454	242	2,696
Pamban	... 1912	132	426	100	526	86	612	94	706	5	711	47	758
"	... 1913	75	367	67	434	71	505	45	550	65	615	30	645
Total	... 1912	2,233	10,141	1,852	11,993	1,948	13,941	1,750	15,691	1,141	16,832	1,305	18,137
"	... 1913	2,280	11,816	1,880	13,696	2,077	15,773	1,685	17,458	1,260	18,718	1,271	19,989



Agencies.	Years.	Jan	Feb.	Total.	Mar.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.
<b>Salem Circle.</b>												
Salem	... 1912	126	132	258	157	415	362	777	326	1,103	313	7,416
"	... 1913	63	124	187	210	397	226	623	217	840	168	1,008
Bangalore	... 1912	23	17	40	14	54	37	91	57	148	34	182
"	... 1913	22	29	51	18	69	14	83	35	118	nil	118
Guntakal	... 1912	6	16	22	4	26	9	35	24	59	32	91
"	... 1913	76	31	107	81	188	96	284	87	371	81	452
Hubli	... 1912	..	27	27	12	39	31	70	44	114	10	124
"	... 1913	19	25	44	2	46	closed	46	closed	46	closed	46
Tirupattur	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	22	22	15	37	34	71	14	85	14	99
Namakal	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	18	15	33	58	91	55	146	83	229	87	316
Dharmapuri	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	35	35	36	71	30	101	14	115	13	128
Atur	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	3	26	29	48	77	61	138	44	182	67	249
Nanjangode	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	12	12	28	40	29	69	19	88
Total	... 1912	155	192	347	187	534	439	973	451	1,424	389	1,813
"	... 1913	201	307	508	480	988	544	1,532	523	2,055	449	2,504

Agencies.	Years.	July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.	Oct.	Total.	Nov.	Total.	Dec.	Total.
Salem	... 1912	346	1,762	456	2,218	457	2,675	217	2,892	76	2,968	62	3,030
"	... 1913	166	1,174	185	1,359	185	1,544	85	1,629	99	1,728	44	1,772
Bangalore	... 1912	64	246	53	299	18	317	47	364	65	429	19	448
"	... 1913	50	168	24	192	24	216	31	247	24	271	20	291
Guntakal	... 1912	27	118	45	163	25	188	75	263	127	390	64	454
"	... 1913	75	527	58	585	76	661	62	723	31	754	21	775
Hubli	... 1912	39	163	16	179	34	213	44	257	42	299	24	323
"	... 1913	closed	46	closed	46	closed	46	closed	46	closed	46	closed	46
Tirupattur	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	38	38	13	51	18	69
"	... 1913	12	111	27	138	30	168	15	183	14	197	2	199
Namakal	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	50	39	89	20	109
"	... 1913	69	385	78	463	69	532	60	592	70	662	38	700
Dharmapuri	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	21	14	35	22	57
"	... 1913	59	187	30	217	55	272	53	325	17	342	24	366
Atur	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	37	37	32	69	16	85
"	... 1913	39	288	66	354	37	391	57	448	24	472	17	489
Nanjangode	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	18	106	31	137	20	157	18	175	6	181	17	198
Total	... 1912	476	2,289	570	2,859	534	3,393	529	3,922	408	4,330	245	4,575
"	... 1913	488	2,992	499	3,491	496	3,987	381	4,368	285	4,653	183	4,836

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	Mar.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.
<b>Palghat Circle.</b>												
Erode	... 1912	134	135	269	144	413	224	637	302	939	174	1,113
"	... 1913	145	187	332	262	594	211	805	216	1,021	274	1,295
Dindigul	... 1912	75	90	165	139	304	242	546	289	835	295	1,130
"	... 1913	168	154	322	178	500	263	763	403	1,166	357	1,523
Karur	... 1912	46	67	113	83	196	118	314	96	410	118	528
"	... 1913	64	71	135	61	196	147	343	184	527	87	614
Palghat	... 1912	36	66	102	56	158	62	220	82	302	167	469
"	... 1913	84	90	174	71	245	41	286	105	391	91	482
Tirur	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	6	5	11	10	21	closed	21	closed	21	closed	21
Cannanore	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	2	2	15	17	9	26	10	36	56	92
Total	... 1912	291	358	649	422	1,071	646	1,717	769	2,486	754	3,240
"	... 1913	467	509	976	597	1,573	671	2,244	918	3,162	865	4,027
Grand Total	... 1912	2,943	3,453	6,396	4,314	10,710	7,365	18,075	11,717	29,792	12,546	42,338
"	... 1913	3,491	3,911	7,402	4,837	12,239	9,328	21,567	14,882	36,449	15,063	51,512

**Palghat Circle.**

Agencies.	Years.	July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.	Oct.	Total.	Nov.	Total.	Dec.	Total.
Erode	1912	202	1,315	173	1,488	274	1,762	241	2,003	230	2,233	186	2,419
"	1913	179	1,474	180	1,654	196	1,850	132	1,982	80	2,062	83	2,145
Dindigul	1912	357	1,487	373	1,860	304	2,164	380	2,544	231	2,775	260	3,035
"	1913	828	1,851	274	2,125	318	2,443	220	2,663	188	2,851	165	3,016
Karur	1912	119	647	198	845	196	1,041	130	1,171	80	1,251	105	1,356
"	1913	103	717	92	809	135	944	124	1,068	77	1,146	68	1,213
Palghat	1912	178	647	173	820	170	990	253	1,243	90	1,333	71	1,404
"	1913	140	622	134	756	101	857	131	988	155	1,143	61	1,204
Tirur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	13	26	39
"	1913	closed	21	closed	21	closed	21	closed	21	closed	21	closed	21
Caunanoore	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	19	111	73	184	35	219	37	256	26	282	31	313
Total	1912	856	4,096	917	5,013	944	5,957	1,004	6,961	644	7,605	648	8,253
"	1913	769	4,796	753	5,549	785	6,334	644	6,978	526	7,504	408	7,912
Grand Total	1912	11,239	53,577	9,954	63,531	10,223	73,754	9,598	83,352	5,180	88,532	5,393	93,925
"	1913	11,610	63,122	9,561	72,683	9,228	81,911	6,409	88,320	4,735	93,055	4,509	97,564

## MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JANUARY, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
<b>Trichinopoly Circle.</b>						
Trichinopoly	... Kulitalai	... Fair	4	3	Not good	The labourers are very busy with cultivation.
Tanjore	... Arantangi	Water supply sufficient.	4	3	Fair	The recent heavy rains damaged paddy crops in parts of Mayaveram and Shiyali Taluqs. There is sufficient local labour for the labouring classes. The recruiting prospects are only fair.
	... Kumbakonam					
	... Mannargudi	Paddy cultivation is going on.				
	... Mayaveram					
	... Nannilam	Other dry and wet crops Ragi, maize, cambu and groundnut are in a fair condition.				
	... Negapatam					
	... Papanasam					
	... Pattukottai					
	... Shiyali					
	... Tanjore					
	... Tiruthuraipoondi					
Puducottah State	... Kolatur	Both dry and wet crops are in a very flourishing condition.	5	3	Not good	Harvesting of groundnut begun which will afford labour to the working classes. Recruiting prospects are only very poor.
	... Alangudi		5	3		
	... Thirumayam		6	3½		
Ramanad	... Tiruvadani	Fair to good	4 to 6	3 to 4	Fair	There has been enough of rain all over the villages and good crops expected.
	... Tirupathur					
	... Sivaganga					
	... Paramakudi					
Tinnevely	... Ambasamudram	Good	6	3	Fair	Plenty of rain all over the District. Crops are in a good condition and working classes are busy with cultivation.
	... Tinnevely	do	6	4		
	... Tenkasi	do	5	3		
	... Nanguneri	Fair	4	3		
	... Srivaikundam	Good	5	3½		
	... Koilkatty	do	6	4		
	... Sankaranainarkoil	Fair	4½	3		
	... Thiruchendur	do	5	3		
Travancore State	... Trivandram	Fair	4	2½	Fair	H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,  
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

## MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JANUARY, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
<b>Chittoor Circle.</b>						
Chittoor	Chittoor	Groundnuts are being dug, young paddy and sowing poor.	3	2	Fair	
	Chendragiri	do	do	do	do	
	Kalahastri	Young paddy good and cholam				
	Vayalpad	poor.	do	do	Indifferent	
	Madanapalli	do	do	do	do	
	Punganur	do	do	do	Bad	
	Palmanair	do	do	do	Fair	
	Karvetnager	Groundnuts good.	do	do	do	
		Young paddy good.			Indifferent	
<b>Tamil Districts.</b>						
North Arcot...	Arcot	Groundnuts are being dug, young paddy poor.	4	2	Fair	
	Vellore	do	do	do	do	
	Gudiyattam	Groundnuts are being dug, young paddy good.	do	do	do	
	Walaja	do	do	do	do	
	Polur	do	do	do	do	
	Arni	do	do	do	Indifferent	
	Wandiwash	Groundnuts are being dug, young paddy poor.	do	do	do	
	Arkonam	Paddy good cholam fair.	4 to 5	2 to 3	Good	
	Cheyar	Paddy and cholam good.	do	do	Fair	
	Tiruvanamalay...	do	do	do	do	
Chingleput ...	Chingleput	Young paddy good.	5	3	Fair	
	Conjeeveram	Ragi and young paddy good.	do	do	do	
	Madurantakam	Young paddy and groundnuts good.	do	2½	do	
	Ponnary	Young paddy cumbu and cholam good.	4	do	do	
	Saidapet	Young paddy good.	6	3	do	
	Tiruvallur	Young paddy and groundnuts are good.	4	do	do	

## MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JANUARY, 1914.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
<b>Dindigul Agency.</b>						
Madura and Coimbatore.	{ Dindigul ... Palany ... Periakulam ... }	Good	4 to 5	2 to 3	Not very good	There is a good deal of work going on in the fields still consequently labour is scarce.
<b>Madura Agency.</b>						
Madura ...	{ Madura ... Melur ... Periakulam ... Nelakottai ... Thirumangalam ... Palany ... Dindigul ... Ramnad ... Thirpuvanam ... Sivaganga ... Thirupathoor ... Mana Madura ... Paramagudi ... Kamuthy ... }	Fair	4 to 5	2 to 3	Fair	In spite of the fact that a large numbers of coolies are employed in the mills in Madura, a large number of coolies are registered at the Madura agency.
<b>Karur Agency.</b>						
Trichinopoly and Coimbatore.	{ Karur and Dharapuram... }	Good	4 to 5	2 to 3	Not good	A lot of work is going on in the fields at present, the Amaravathi river having been in flood.
<b>Erode Agency.</b>						
Coimbatore ...	{ Erode ... Bhavani ... Gobichetty-palayam ... Palladam ... Peria Dharapuram ... Satyamangalam ... Avanashi ... Udamalpet ... Pollachi ... Kollegal ... }	Good	4 to 5	2 to 0.2-6	Fair	Labour is available in most parts of the District, but not in large numbers at present.
<b>Palghat and Cannanore Agency.</b>						
Malabar ...	{ Palghat ... Walawanad ... Ernad ... Calicut ... Chirakkal ... Kurumbranad ... Ponani ... Kottayam ... }	Good	3 to 4	2 to 0.2-6	Good	Very few kanganies are recruiting in Malabar this month, coolies available in most parts of the District.

G. S. DUPEN,

Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner, .

29th December, 1913.

## MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JANUARY, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
<b>Salem Circle.</b>						
Salem	Salem	Good	6	3	Bad	Owing to magnesite works and harvesting season.
	Trichengode	Good	4	2	Poor	Harvesting season.
	Uttengarai	Moderate	4	2	Fair	Keen in some villages.
	Omair	Fair	4	2	Poor	Magnesite works and harvesting season.
	Krishnagiri	Moderate	6	2	Poor	Good rain and plague in places.
	Hosoor	do	4	2	Fair	Plague in places, good family connections would go.
	Dharmapuri	Fair	5	3½	Poor	Villagers seem satisfied and rain fair.
	Attoor	Fair	4	2½	Poor at present.	Harvesting in progress and good wages are paid—also plenty of rain.
Trichy	Namakal	Moderate	4 to 5	2 to 3	Moderate	Harvesting in progress.
	Musiri	Paddy and kumboo fair	4 to 6	2 to 3	Moderate	Plenty of rain, harvesting in progress.
	Perambalore	cholam and Raji good	1½ to 2½	As for children		Also very few kanganies are recruiting in these parts at present.
	Kulitalai					
North Arcot	Tirupathur	Moderate	4	2	Moderate	Plague still in places.
	Kuppam (Tirupatur Taluk.	do	4	2	do	
Mysore	Nanjangud					
	Chamrajanagar	Fair	5	3	Poor	Crops are still standing rain is needed water in rivers low. Agriculturists busy with cultivation. Paddy harvest approaching.
	Gundlupet					
South Arcot	Villupuram	Groundnuts crop began to continue.	5	3	Moderate	
	Tindivanam	do	do	do	do	
	Virudachalam	do	do	do	do	
	Tirukoilur	do	do	do	do	
	Gingee	do	do	do	do	
	Kallakurichi	do	do	do	do	
	Chiddambaram	do	do	do	do	
	Cuddalore	do	do	do	do	
<b>Telugu Districts.</b>						
Cuddapah	Cuddapah	Good rain, crop growing.	4	2	Bad	
	Pulivendla	do	do	do	do	
	Kamalapuram	do	3	do	do	
	Rayachoty	do	do	do	do	
	Rajampet	do	do	do	do	
	Sidhout	do	do	do	do	
	Proddatur	do	8	do	do	
	Badvel	do	3	3	do	
	Jammalamadugu	do	do	do	do	

E. B. LEVINGE,  
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,  
Salem Circle.

E. B. LEVINGE,  
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,  
Salem Circle.

## MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JANUARY, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
<b>Telugu Districts.</b>						
Nellore	Nellore	... Paddy nearly ripe.	4	3	Bad	
	Sooloorpet	... Paddy good.	3	1½	do	
	Venkatagiri	... Paddy good and young cholam good.	4	2½	do	
	Kovoor	... Paddy and Ragi good.	do	2	do	
	Kavali	... Paddy and cumbu good.	do	3	do	
	Atmakur	... Paddy nearly ripe.	3	1½	do	
	Kandukur	... do	2	1	do	
	Udayagiri	... do	2½	do	do	
	Rapoor	... Paddy, cholam and cumbu good.	3	1½	do	
	Podili	... Cumbu, cholam and young paddy good.	do	2	do	
	Kanigiri	... Cholam, cumbu green dhal and young paddy good.	do	1½	do	
	Darsi	... do	3	do	do	
	Gudur	... Paddy nearly ripe, young cholam good.	4	2½	do	
	Guntur	... Chillies and tobacco are in fertile growth. Cumbu and cholam harvested.	4	3	Bad	
Guntur	Tenali	... Paddy is in the harvesting time.	do	do	do	
	Satnapalli	... Cotton is in the prosperous condition. Cholam, cumbu are in the harvest time.	do	do	do	
	Narasarowpet	... Cotton is prospering. Kambu and cholam harvested.	do	do	do	
Anantapur	Anantapur	... Kora and groundnut good.	4½	3	Moderate	
	Hindupur	... Paddy and cholam good.	4	2½	Bad	
	Dharmavaram	... do	do	3	Moderate	
	Gooty	... Cumbu and Kora poor.	3	2	do	
	Kaliandrug	... Cholam and Kora good.	do	do	do	
	Kadirai	... do	4	2½	Bad	

## MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JANUARY, 1914.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men. Annas.	Women, Annas.		
Telugu Districts.						
Bellary	Bellary	... Paddy and cholam good.	4	2½	Moderate	
	Royadrug	... do	do	do	do	
	Hospet	... do	do	do	do	
	Adoni	... do	do	do	Bad	
Kurnool	Kurnool	... Paddy good.	4	2½	Moderate	
	Nandiyal	... Ripe ragi overage.	do	do	do	
	Dhone	... do	do	do	do	

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,  
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

## MANDAPAM COOLY CAMP.

6th January, 1914.

THE SECRETARY.

Planters' Association of Ceylon,  
Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

On the 16th December, 1913, in company with Mr. F. Bowes, Principal Collector of Customs, Dr. Rutherford, Acting P.C.M.O., and Mr. O'Shannessey, Construction Engineer, South Indian Railway who is erecting the Temporary and Permanent Camps, I inspected the former and am glad to be able to report that all is now ready for the accommodation of coolies so soon as the Indo-Ceylon Connection is open to through traffic which I understand will not be the case simultaneously with the Official opening next month but at a somewhat later date. Finding no Office accommodation provided for this Commission or quarters for my Officials, I placed my requirements before Mr. Bowes and he arranged with the Construction Engineer for the erection of the following cadjan building which similar to the other structures in the Camp will be of a temporary nature:—

Commission Office containing 3 rooms with a verandah.  
Agents Quarters.  
Assistant Agents Quarters.  
Quarters for 4 Clerks and 6 peons.

**PERMANENT CAMP:—**This site we inspected and it is satisfactory to note that a good start had already been made with the work. After consulting the plan in conjunction with Mr. Bowes and Dr. Rutherford, a suitable site was chosen for a permanent Office for this Commission and Quarters for Officials and Peons. I am writing to the Chief Engineer of the South Indian Railway asking him for an approximate estimate of cost of this permanent building and will submit same to you on receipt together with a memo showing expenditure that will be incurred this year for the erection of the cadjan buildings in the temporary camp. The expenditure incurred for the permanent camp will not, of course, come into this year's estimate, but the temporary camp accommodation will have to be provided for. I do not however anticipate that it will be very heavy. The liability of this commission for the accommodation provided both in the temporary and permanent camps is with the Ceylon Government and we have nothing to do with the South Indian Railway in this connection. The estimates of cost above referred to will be provided by them by courtesy. Arrangements made for the accommodation of coolies at the tem-

porary camp are most complete and I do not think that anything in the way of sanitary precautions and satisfactory feeding arrangements has been left undone as far as is possible in a temporary camp of this nature. I shall go more fully into the matter in my Inspection Report which I hope to include in my camping notes in the next issue of the *Planting Gazette*.

I am now taking steps to arrange for a suitable staff to take charge of the Commission Offices simultaneously with the completion of the Indo-Ceylon connection.

I am, Sir,  
Yours faithfully,  
H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,  
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

## ABSTRACT SHOWING BOLTING SUBSEQUENT TO REGISTRATION.

THE SECRETARY,

Planters' Association of Ceylon,  
Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

With reference to \* Page 22 of the *Planting Gazette* for January, 1914, under the above heading, I find that the figure Rs. 27,497-4-7 shown as total loss involved for all Circles has been printed as Rs. 2,749-4-7, and shall be glad if you will correct the mistake in the next issue of the *Planting Gazette*.

I am, Dear Sir,  
Yours faithfully,  
H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,  
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

## COLOMBO FORWARDING AGENCY.

INSTRUCTIONS TO AGENT.

1. The Agent will make himself familiar with the times of arrival of the trains from Up-country, Kelani Valley and Sea side lines.

2. Two peons will always be on platform duty at Maradana junction station, and on arrival of trains, kangany and coolies bearing order forms will be taken direct to the feeding house by one peon without any delay, leaving the second man at the Station.

3. PEONS HOURS OF DUTY.—Two peons will be on duty from the time of arrival of the first train until 2 p.m., when they will be relieved by the other two peons, who will remain until after the night trains have come in. The peons on duty in the morning will proceed to the feeding house when they are relieved and will escort the coolies to the launch; this duty completed, they may go to their homes. Peons will do one week day duty and one week night duty.

4. Peons are directly under the control of the Agent and must obey his orders.

5. The Agent will procure a schedule from the Madura Co. showing the through fares to the various stations, and he will prepare a promissory note in respect of each order, in the name of the kangany who is in charge of the party. This pro-note will include the charge for meals, the cost of fare, and the cost of the stamp (5 cents) which is to be affixed to each pro-note.

For instance:—

2 Meals .....	.60
1 fare, Tuticorin .....	3.04
1 Stamp .....	.05
	—
	3.69

These pro-notes are to be despatched daily to Head Office, and the greatest care must be taken to see that the name of the estate and the person signing the pro-note are correctly copied from the order.

6. The order must be sent with the pro-note and it must be registered before despatch, in a book to be obtained for the purpose and ruled as below:—

Date.	Estate name.	T.T. No.	Coolies names.	Tickets bought.	Meals supplied.
3-1-'14	Kelani	Z 17	Carupie	Tuticorin	Two
			Olagan	Dindigal	Two
			Ramen	Madras	Two

and so on.

7. The Agent will send a requisition to the Madura Co. daily at about 2.30 p.m. for the tickets required. For this purpose he will use the order books which will be supplied by Messrs Cave and Co. He is to be very careful in filling in these orders, as he will be held responsible for any mistakes.

8. For the present, until he is advised by the Madura Company, the Agent will order Tickets for Tuticorin only, as the Madura Co. have not a supply of third class tickets in hand. The Agent must obtain the order numbered "2" and write on it his instructions to the Tuticorin Agent in the following manner:—

The Tuticorin Agent.

"Please purchase rail tickets in the usual manner for the persons named on the front of this order."

Agent,

C.L.C., Colombo.

The Tuticorin Agent will be instructed regarding this by me.

9. The Agent will act on these instructions and also on those issued direct to him by the Commissioner.

N. M. BOWDEN,

Deputy Commissioner.

### TAMIL VAGRANTS IN COLOMBO.

Office of the Inspector-General of Police,  
Colombo, 10th January, 1914.

THE SECRETARY,

Planters' Association.

SIR,

With reference to my letter No. 738 of 11th March, 1913 (copy of which is attached for ready reference), I have the honour to inform you that the House of Detention in Colombo has been enlarged and the system of dealing with vagrants in Colombo is now complete.

2. A large number of vagrants are passing through our hands. The majority of them are Tamils, some have previously been employed on estates and have for various reasons sunk to begging in Colombo. After a few days rest and treatment in the House of Detention a large number are fit for active work on estates.

3. Communications received from estates to which vagrants have been sent prove that the majority turn out well. Out of 123 coolies sent to estates between 1st April, 1913, and 31st October, 1913, during which period the House of Detention was working on a small scale, all but two are reported to have turned out well.

4. Section 7 of Ordinance No. 5 of 1907 reads as follows:—

(1) "The Superintendent of any House of Detention shall use his best endeavours to obtain suitable employment outside the house for vagrants admitted thereto."

(2) "When any such employment is obtained, any vagrant who refuses or neglects to avail himself thereof shall be liable to imprisonment of either description for any term not exceeding one month."

I request that this method of obtaining labour may be brought to the notice of members of your Association. The procedure to be followed is as stated in the last para of my letter of March 11th to which reference is invited.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

H. L. DOWBIGGIN.

Acting Inspector-General of Police.

Office of the Inspector-General of Police,



(Copy referred to.)

Colombo, March 11th, 1913.

**House of Detention for Vagrants.**

THE SECRETARY,  
Planters' Association.

SIR,

I have the honour to state that a House of Detention has been started in Colombo. Some of the inmates are healthy able-bodied Tamils, who hitherto have found begging a more congenial and paying occupation than ordinary labour. After a short rest in the house, it is possible that they may volunteer to go out to work. It is a duty imposed on the Superintendent to find work for them if possible. I shall be obliged if a few members of your Association who can offer employment to Tamil labourers and are prepared to pay the cost of their transport from Colombo to the estate will apply to the Superintendent of the House of Detention, Mutwal, to have their names placed on the register of employers.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
I. E. DAVID.  
Inspector-General of Police.

## CORRESPONDENCE

**FLOODS IN OCTOBER, 1913.**

7th January, 1914,  
Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo.

THE CHAIRMAN,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

SIR,

I am directed to state that the assistance rendered to the Railway Department by planters in the Hatton district and along the Kelani Valley and Ratnapura lines in connection with the damage caused by the floods in October, 1913, has been brought to the notice of the Governor. Special mention has been made of the gentlemen named in the enclosed list.

2. His Excellency will be glad if you will convey to these gentlemen in particular and to the planting community in general his appreciation of the services rendered by them to Government.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
M. A. YOUNG,  
for Colonial Secretary.

**List of Planters.**

Mr. S. C. Trail, Hatton, Fruithill and Poolbank Estate	
„ M. L. Wilkins, Strathdon	„
„ C. G. Spiller, Vellai Oya	„
„ D. Wallace, Glencaffe	„
„ J. S. Lovell, Coldstream	„
„ G. V. Prideaux, Dunbar	„
„ W. N. Cooke, Mayfield	„
„ J. L. Mackie, Atherfield Estate	
„ M. J. Pain, Degalessa	„
„ J. C. Mitchell, Panawatte	„
„ P. G. Wood, Kotunnagalla and Pussella Estate	
„ A. W. Mack, Paradise	„
„ M. S. Davidson, Kriagala	„

Hatton District.

Kelani Valley Line

Ratnapura Line.

**Detention of Coolies by Washaways.**

Colombo, Kachcheri,  
29th December, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon,  
Kandy.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that in the case of suspension of traffic on the railway the following procedure will be followed by the Superintendent, Ragama Camp.

(a) Gangs composed entirely of new coolies are being sent off by the first available trains, but are being detained at Ragama until the escorts, for whom the Superintendent wired to their estates, arrive.

(b) Gangs in which there is at least one old coolie are sent away as soon as possible. Their despatch will be immediately confirmed by wire, so that the Superintendent may know that their coolies have left Camp.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
H. R. FREEMAN.  
Government Agent, V

C. W. BICKMORE,  
Office Assistant.

Bournemouth, 24th December, 1913.

THE EDITOR,  
The Planting Gazette.

DEAR SIR,

As our coolie Immigration has been engaging attention of the Planting Community during the past year, it was interesting to you to know how I came in touch with the question so early in my planting career.

About 1862 when I became the Manager of Hoolakande Estate, I found that the Peria Canganie had died on the Coast leaving a debit Coast Advance of about £200. (We had no rupee currency then. The small Canganies repudiated any indebtedness to Head Canganie or Estate. My Brother-in-law, Mr. Tytler, gave me six weeks leave to go to the Coast, and so off I went with Mr. Wm. Northway one of the two brothers called by the Tamil coolies, Velleyan and Swamy Dorai. Velleyan spoke Tamil like a coolie, so he was most useful.

We embarked for Davipatnam in a small native brig captained by a Mr. Batta, who navigated well except when we arrived at Pamben where the Palmgrove Toddy was too much for him. The head tindal however took charge of the brig after leaving Pamben till the Skipper slept himself sober, just in time for a very stiff gale nearly blew us on to the Coast of Tondi.

We soon got tired of Davipatnam and trained to Tanjore where we visited the fine Hindu Temple there. Next day we trained to Trichinopoly, the hottest hole I ever was in, and did all the temples there. We had a letter of introduction to the Rajah of Puddacottah who treated us well at his guest Rest House there. I endeavoured to get hold of the deceased Moorish Head Canganie there, but it was like looking for a needle in a bundle of hay. We found our way to Madra where we called on Mr. Levinge, the Collector, who received us courteously and asked us many questions as to the way the Tamil coolies were treated in Ceylon. He told us how their Emigration to Ceylon suited South India and had staved off famine in several bad years. He only hoped a proper ferry service would be established between Pamben and Mannar, as the coolies, especially those coming back with their wages, &c., were victimised by the Moorish Ferry boat owners. He had also heard lamentable stories of their treatment on the North Road from want of food supplies, and Medicines. He gave us letters of introduction to the Police Superintendent at Mannar which resulted in our finding that gentleman's horses waiting for us about 20 miles from Kelacarré. The salaaming we received, mounted on the Police horses, was very different to the cool way we were received as private individuals previously.

We stayed at the Ferry Station with Mr. Reedy, the new Ferry Superintendent appointed by the Ceylon Government. A smart rough and ready Irishman with plenty of pluck to fight the rascally Moorish Ferry men, who threatened to murder him. He had three nice schooner-rigged vessels with civil tindals and Lascars and from that time there was scarcely a hitch till the Ferry was given up some years ago for *Steamers between Colombo and Tuticorin*.

At Mannar, the A.G.A., Mr. (now Sir William Twynam) called on us and was much interested in the Ferry arrangements, telling us we could not have a better man than Mr. Reedy. Mr. Twynam discanted on the horrors of the land journey between Mannar and Nalande, where there was no food or Medicine supplies and coolies were left dying of Cholera, for the Canganies had nothing to give them nor could food be purchased. He hoped I would use every effort

to get the P. A. to suggest proper methods for Government patrols, Depots of Food, and Medicines to be stationed every 20 miles along the North Road. Oh the sad sights we saw along that dreary North Road on a bad Cholera year—Northway got Dysentery and it was a weary journey in bullock carts till we reached Dambool where fortunately my old friend Fred Saunders met us on his way to Matale from Trincomalie.

He reported our case to Mr. Brodie, the A. G. A. of Matale, who kindly sent his own carriage to meet us at Nalande.

Mr. W. Martin Leake was the energetic Secretary of the P. A., and he forwarded my letters on the subject of Ferries, the North Road, food and Medicine Depots, Hospitals, &c., and well digging. My visit to India was well timed.

My next connection with Indian Immigration was when Acting Planting Member in Legislative Council. The Association wished me to back up their application to Government to subsidise the funds necessary to have a proper Immigration Commission in India. Sir Henry Blake was our able Governor and promptly allowed me to propose a vote of Rs. 15,000 to aid the project. The vote was opposed by all the native members and the Acting Burgher Member (unfortunately good old Mr. Leos was in Europe. However, the Government and European unofficial members voted solid in our favour and the vote was carried. Unfortunately a new Secretary for the Colonies, who knew not "Joseph," and we had no Sir Henry Blake to forcibly back us, and the vote and Government patronage ceased. Sir Edward Rossing fought well, but it was about the time when the Secretary of State came under some back door influence adverse to the Mercantile and Planting European interests and when we lost our Mercantile and Planting members.

I fancy you are getting tired of this long letter, so with best wishes to yourself and all my old Planting Friends.

I remain,  
Yours sincerely,  
W. D. GIBBON.

**Aerial Tramways.**

Colombo Club,  
3rd January, 1914.

THE EDITOR.

*The Planting Gazette.*

SIR,

Herewith a cutting from the December number of the Royal Colonial Institute, for which please try to find space in your next issue.

The subject is one which should be of special interest to Ceylon planters at this juncture, but although I have advocated it on every possible occasion, with officials, merchants and planters of my acquaintance, it does not seem to "catch on." They are all too busy with their own particular job and one and all, while admitting that something ought to be done, seem to think, that it is a question only for Government to take up.

With our railways, roads, and bridges all thrown out of gear by the storms and floods of the past year, the present is a very suitable time for ventilating the question, and if you will refer to it in the editorial notes of the *Gazette*, perhaps some member of the Planters' Association might be induced to bring it forward at an early meeting and so start the ball rolling.

When the railway through the districts of Dickoya and Dimbula was first projected, it was intended to serve the interests of the coffee industry then thriving in the mountain zone ranging from say 3,000 to 5,000 feet above sea-level.

It was never anticipated at that time that the main traffic in goods and passengers would eventually come from the much vaster areas between sea-level and 3,000 feet in the shape of the tea, rubber and coconut industries, or no doubt we should have had a system of railways encircling the several groups of mountains North and South of Kandy, fed by light railways or aerial tramways from the districts above them.

Is it too late to see something of this sort carried out or are we to go on paying heavily for traffic being hauled up by our cumbersome and expensive railway over a 6,000 feet mountain range, from sea-level on one side only to be let down again thousands of feet on the other side?

Kurunegalla could be linked up with Matale and Kandy with Badulla, whilst the Kelani Valley line might be taken on to Haldumulla, Koslande and Wellaway and all these, and many other points, fed by aerial tramways from the districts above them.

If, as the enclosed cutting shows, aerial tramways can be worked in the Himalayas, how much easier must it be to do so in Ceylon.

I am, Sir,  
Yours faithfully,  
M. BREMER.

### INDIA.

PROPOSED AERIAL CABLEWAY ACROSS THE HIMALAYAS.—According to the "Consular Report," it is expected that the work of constructing an aerial cableway across the Himalaya Mountains, separating the Vale of Kashmir from the plains of the Punjab in northern India, will be begun during the spring of next year. Hitherto, the excessive expense, and the long time required for transport, has been a serious obstacle in the way of trade development between the State of Kashmir and the rest of the Indian Empire, and consequently the growth of prosperity has been severely hampered. Heavy landslips are so frequent in this part of the Himalayas, particularly after rain, as to render mountain railways impracticable, and the same objection, coupled with the sharpness of the angles required to be turned *en route*, prevent the possibility of the mono-rail system being used. Lieut.-Col. de Lotbinière (the Canadian military engineer whose services have been lent to the Kashmir Government) has com-

pleted his investigations with regard to an aerial cableway, and has proved to the satisfaction of the Government that the scheme is practicable and not unduly expensive. Arrangements have been made for the organisation of a company to undertake the work, under a concession from the Kashmir Government, and it only remains to obtain the sanction of the Imperial Government. The cableway will be about seventy-five miles long (one in Argentine, measuring twenty-two miles, is the longest now in existence.)

### COOLY'S NOTICE TO QUIT.

#### INTERESTING DECISION IN APPEAL.

A decision of interest to the planting community was given today by Mr. Justice de Sampayo in a case from the Kegalle Police Court in which Caderwail, a cooly, appealed from a conviction and fine of Rs. 5 on a charge of having quitted Ambadeniya estate without leave or reasonable cause.

His Lordship held that the Magistrate was in error in following the Supreme Court decision in the Kandy case, and therefore set aside the conviction and acquitted the accused.

The following is the text of the judgment:—The accused, who was a labourer employed on Ambadeniya estate, has been convicted, under Section 11 of Ordinance No. 11 of 1865, of the offence of having quitted service without notice and without reasonable cause. The accused's defence is that he gave due notice of his intention to quit service. The accused belonged to the gang of Periyanan kangany, and on the 20th August, 1913, the kangany sent to the Superintendent a written notice running in the name of himself and his coolies and intimating their intention to quit service at the expiration of one month thereafter. The notice is admitted to have been duly received. It is correct in form and contains all the names and is signed by all the coolies with their marks, which are witnessed by three persons, two of whom are themselves kanganies. At the trial the accused swore to his signature and gave reasons for his wishing to leave. The Police Magistrate does not doubt that the accused signed the notice, but in view of the decision of the Supreme Court in 411 P.C. Kandy 28509 (Supreme Court Minutes 17th June, 1912), he does not think that the notice amounts to

#### A PERSONAL SIGNIFICATION

of the accused's intention to quit his employers' service, and he proceeds to say: "there is nothing to shew who wrote the notice, it was not explained to accused, indeed it appears that at the time the marks were affixed no one was present who knew English. Accused had only the vaguest idea of what it was about. As far as he knew, it might have been anything." I shall presently refer to the evidence on this point, but I may at once say that the Magistrate appears to me to be mistaken as to the requirements of a notice to quit. In using the expression "personal signification" he evidently means to refer to Section 20 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1909,

which enacts that "a notice or warning of the intention of any labourer to determine his contract of service, if given by any other person on behalf of the labourer, shall not begin to run or be in any way effectual in law, unless and until the labourer has personally signified to his employer his desire to determine his contract of service." Now, this notice was not one "given by any other persons on behalf of the labourer," but purports to be, and was, given by the labourer himself. It was no doubt transmitted through the post by the kangany, but transmitting is not the same thing as "giving." In every case a written notice must necessarily be put into the post or handed to the employer by some one man, and, if that vitiate, a notice signed by several. In no case could several labourers

## JOIN IN ONE NOTICE.

I do not think that Section 20 of the Ordinance No. 9 of 1909 applies to this case at all. It appears to me to contemplate such cases as where a notice is signed and given by a kangany on behalf of himself and his gang or by a proctor on behalf of all the coolies. In this case I think the notice was, and must be taken to have been, given by each individual cooly who signed it. "Giving" signifies that the notice proceeds from the persons or person whose intention to quit is therein expressed. This, of course, may be negated by evidence: it may, for instance, be proved that the labourer, though he signed the notice, intended it as something else. It does not matter, so far as the validity of the notice is concerned, that the labourer is induced by his kangany or any one else to determine his contract of service. This brings me to the question of evidence in this case. It is true that the accused said in cross-examination "no one explained what I was signing," and I do not know what I was signing, but in view of the rest of his evidence it is clear to me that the accused merely meant to say that not knowing English he did not know all the details of the document, and not that he did not know the purpose and effect of it. I quote from the record of his evidence the following passages:—"I wanted to leave the estate. I asked for a tundu. A tundu was given including the debts of dead men. We protested. . . . He (the kangany) brought two copies of a notice to me. . . . We signed in the presence of Periya-karuppen Kangany, Vellappen Kangany, and Segu Rawthar." "The kangany said those who want to remain on the estate can remain, those who want to come with me can sign 'The document was to be sent to the *dorai* . . . . I did not want to remain on the estate. I told my kangany so." From this evidence and the whole tenor of the defence it is impossible to conclude that the accused did not intend to determine his service or that he did not mean the document he signed to be a sufficient notice for that purpose. The fact that all the coolies knew what they were doing is further attested by the sub-kangany Karuppen, to whose particular gang the accused belonged, and by the head kangany Periyanan, and the evidence of these two men is not expressly disbelieved by the Magistrate. I may add that

## MAGISTRATE IS NOT QUITE CORRECT

in saying that there is nothing to show who wrote the notice, for the head kangany says that wishing to leave the estate he consulted his proctor, Mr. Jonklaas, about giving notice, and that he was given a form of notice, which, after completion, he took back to Mr. Jonklaas who then told him that they could leave on the 27th September. The accused as a matter of fact left on the 27th September along with the other coolies in pursuance of that notice. Having referred to the judgment in P. C. Kandy 28509 relied on by the Magistrate I find that it is not applicable as an authority. There, as here, the question was one of fact, and each case must depend on its own circumstances. Moreover, it appears that in the Kandy case the mark was not authenticated, that it was not pretended that the notice was written by any responsible person, that at the trial the accused gave no evidence that the mark was made by him or that he authorised any one to send the notice, and that in fact no evidence for the defence was given at all. In all these respects the present case differs from the Kandy case, and all the defects there pointed out are fully supplied here. It is impossible, without improperly straining the evidence, to say that the notice in question is not good and sufficient. I may add that the notice being on the face of it good in form and substance, it was for the prosecution to prove that it did not in fact proceed from the accused, which, however, it singularly failed to do. I set aside the conviction and acquit the accused.

## Miscellaneous

## MAURITIUS.

EAST INDIAN IMMIGRANTS.—According to the "West India Committee Circular," the refusal of the Indian Government to sanction the emigration of coolies to Mauritius, even on a reduced scale, has caused much disappointment in the Island. The needs of the Colony demand a certain amount of imported labour, and the question as to whether it would be possible to arrange for the immigration of unindentured labourers is receiving the careful consideration of the Chamber of Agriculture. It has been suggested that one way out of the difficulty would be the adoption of the system in vogue in Ceylon for recruiting labour on the tea estates there. Under this system, which is independent of Government intervention, planters depute their native overseers, who are provided with the necessary funds, to proceed to India and there procure the required number of labourers. This system is by no means an ideal one, but it is feared that the Colony may be induced to adopt it if no better solution of the difficulty can be arrived at.



Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, on Friday, the 9th January, 1914, at 11 a.m. Present:—Mr. F. H. Layard (Chairman, P.A. of Ceylon), the Hon. Mr. Wm. Sinclair (Rangalla P.A., Messrs. Geo. Kent-Deaker (Passara P.A.), G. H. Masefield (Kandy), R. G. Coombe (Haputale P.A.), G. J. Pickthall (Visitor), F. E. Henderson (Hon. Secretary, Kandy Districts P.A.), H. M. Picken (Pussellawa P.A.), P. P. C. Walker (Hon. Secretary, Pussellawa P.A.), H. S. Cameron (Hon. Secretary, Matale P.A.), H. Glyn Eccles (Chairman, Dickoya P.A.), J. B. Coles (Kandy), H. J. Wilson Blackett (Chairman, Ramboda P.A.), A. J. Stephens (Dolosbagie and Yakdessa P.A.), Wallace R. Westland (Kandy), J. G. Napier (K. K. and Panwila P.A.), M. L. Wilkins (Chairman, Ambegamuwa P.A.), H. D. Garrick (Matale P.A.), D. J. Blyth (Pussellawa P.A.), T. Y. Wright (Chairman, K. K. and Panwila P.A.), J. Percy Hortin (K. K. and Panwila P.A.), Wyndham F. Baker (Chairman and Hon. Secretary, Urugala P.A.), Neill G. Campbell (Nuwara Eliya Districts P.A.), Gordon Pyper, snr. (Kandy), H. A. Beachcroft (Kandy), G. H. Golledge (Chairman, Kalutara P.A.), H. Inglis (Kalutara P.A.), P. R. Shand (Kandy), G. C. Bliss (Kandy), Professor Wyndham R. Dunstan (Visitor), T. Gidden (Kandy), Rodney Mylius (Dimbula P.A.), J. H. Armitage (Hon. Secretary, Dickoya P.A.), E. G. Box (Dolosbagie and Yakdessa P.A.), A. Thorp (Chairman, Matale P.A.), M. Kelway Bamber (Visitor), C. du Pre Moore (Chairman, Kandy Districts P.A.), R. Huyshe Eliot (Dickoya P.A.) and John Still (Secretary P. A. of Ceylon).—36 members and three visitors.

The notice calling the meeting was read.

The minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at Kandy on Friday, the 19th December, 1913, were submitted for confirmation.

Resolved: "That they be and they hereby are confirmed."

#### MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

Submitted letters and telegrams regretting inability to be present at meeting from Messrs. J. Hall Brown, Geo. Benzie, Edgar Turner, Hew Kennedy, J. Lochore, Hodgson Bell, J. W. Hyde, A. M. Carmichael, William Gibson, W. H. Biddulph, L. C. Maudslay.

#### RURAL MEMBER OF COUNCIL.

The CHAIRMAN notified the meeting that on the expiration of Sir Edward Rosling's leave of absence from the Island the Acting Member's term of office would close.

The election of a permanent Rural Member will then take place.

#### CHAIRMAN PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Mr F. H. LAYARD informed the meeting that he would not be in a position to stand for the chair again at the annual general meeting to be held in February.

#### DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

Correspondence forwarded by the Dimbula District P.A. was read. The district holds certain properties in trust, and it is desired to vest these trusts in the hands of trustees who shall be permanent and not changing such as the "office-bearers" of the District Association.

Resolved: "That a sub-Committee consisting of Messrs. H. A. Beachcroft, G. C. Bliss, the Chairman and the Secretary do inquire into this matter and report."

Read a letter from the Dimbula District P. A. on the subject of batta for witnesses in Supreme Court cases.

Resolved: "That the Hon. the Acting Rural Member be asked to inquire regarding this."

#### MEDICAL WANTS COMMITTEE.

Resolved: "That the names of Messrs. E. Turner, G. C. Bliss, and the Chairman, Planters' Association, be submitted to Government for service as planting representatives on this Committee."

#### THE EXPERIMENTAL STATION AT MAHA ILLUPPALAMA.

Read the following letter from the Hon. the Colonial Secretary:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo, 2nd December, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon.  
Sir,

In continuation of my letter of the 21st August, 1913, I am directed to state that His Excellency the Governor has decided that for the present the Experiment Station at Maha Illuppalama should continue to remain under Government control.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
D. W. ARNOTT,  
for Colonial Secretary.

Resolved: "That the Secretary do write and thank the Hon. the Colonial Secretary for retaining this Station for Experimental purposes."

#### FLOOD DAMAGES.

Read a letter from the Hon. the Colonial Secretary conveying His Excellency the Governor's appreciation of the services rendered by planters to Government in connection with the damages caused by floods in October.

#### ANNUAL REPORT 1913.

Resolved: "That the draft of this report be printed and circularized to members of this Committee."

#### MECHANICAL TRANSPORT.

Mr. WILKINS spoke on this subject regarding sidings to be provided on roads where motor lorry traffic is permitted.

Resolved: "That the views of this Committee be embodied in a letter to Government."

Resolved: "That the Secretary do write to various gentlemen with experience in motor transport and ask them for notes to be published in the *Planting Gazette*."

## COOLIES' FOOD SUPPLIES.

Read the following report on the progress made by the sub-Committee appointed to study this question:—

SUB-COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO GO INTO THE QUESTION OF

## COOLIES' FOOD SUPPLIES.—REPORT.

Only one meeting of this sub-Committee has yet been held at which there were present Mr. F. H. Layard (Chairman), Messrs. M. L. Wilkins, Hcw Kennedy, Wallace Westland (P.A. members), Mr. Rufus Wilson (Chamber of Commerce member), Dr. Langley Hunt, who kindly attended and gave valuable advice, and Mr. John Still (Secretary.)

At the present time very little is available in the way of detailed results of the working of this sub-Committee, as a large array of figures and facts have first to be gone into and analysed. Mr. Wilson has a part of this work in hand and has made considerable progress. It is intended when these figures are available to write to the Chamber of Commerce, Rangoon, with the object of ascertaining what inducements would be required to persuade shippers of Rangoon rice to alter their manufacture so as to suit the Ceylon demand.

It is also intended to ascertain the cost of landing Rangoon paddy in Colombo with a view to enquiring whether it would be expedient to set up milling machinery for the purpose of dealing with this new supply.

Another decision came to was that the Hon. the Colonial Secretary should be asked to receive this sub-Committee and to arrange a conference with the Controller of Revenue and other Officials with the object of discovering what facilities Government would give to capitalists who wish to grow paddy on a large scale beneath any of the great Irrigation Schemes in the North and East of Ceylon. But before approaching Government it is necessary that all facts and figures shall have been thoroughly examined and elaborated.

In response to circulars issued by the Secretary, the following figures have been obtained showing the rapid rise in the loss on rice as issued to coolies on estates:—In 1911 figures are available for 190,494 acres on which the average loss was 48 cents per acre. In 1912 the average loss on 192,721 acres had risen to Rs. 1.75 per acre, while in 1913 the loss on 190,158 acres averaged Rs. 3.17 per acre. If this last figure be applied to the total acreage under tea and rubber, the loss during 1913 will appear as Rs. 2,015,004.16.

## Loss on Rice.

	Acreage.	Loss.	Per acre.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1911	190,494	91,880 19	48
1912	192,721	337,323 00	1 75
1913	190,158	604,355 68	3 17

Applied to tea and rubber 1913—Rs. 2,015,004.16.

"With regard to the substitution of some other food supply than rice, Dr. Hunt informed the sub-Committee that kurakkan is not a less valuable food than rice, but actually is more nutritious, and he has very kindly undertaken to write for the *Planting Gazette* an article on "Food materials and their respective nutritive values."

"It is hoped shortly to hold another meeting, at which the figures obtained since the last meeting will be discussed and when further action will be decided upon."

## MANDAPAM CAMP.

A memorandum of intended procedure to be adopted in connection with immigration of coolies *via* Mandapam, kindly furnished by the Chairman of the Plague Committee, was read.

Resolved:—"That the Hon. the Rural Member be requested to draw the attention of Government to the necessity of passing the new Ordinance before the opening of the new route."

## COLOMBO DEPOT FOR OUTGOING COOLIES.

In reply to questions was explained that all trains will be met at the terminus by peons who will escort the coolies to the depot, which is situated at the outside of the corner in the road between the new and the old railway terminus.

## THEFT OF TEA AND RUBBER STUMPS.

The Secretary informed the meeting that he had received details of a number of specific instances of theft of tea plants, but none as yet of rubber or coconut plants.

Resolved:—"That Mr. Long Price be asked to furnish details regarding theft of coconut plants and that the information, when complete, be forwarded to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary with an expression of this Committee's opinion that an amendment is required to the Ordinance."

## COCOA THEFTS.

These were discussed shortly.

## CARDAMOM THEFTS.

The Hon. the Rural Member informed the meeting that the drafting of a new Ordinance to prevent cardamom thefts was now in hand.

## THE EXCISE SYSTEM.

Read the following letter from the Hon. the Government Agent, C. P., enclosing an extract from the Ceylon Government "Gazette" No. 6,598 of December 19th, 1913:—

## FOREIGN LIQUOR LICENSES.

The Kachcheri,  
Kandy, 8th January, 1914.

THE SECRETARY,

Ceylon Planters' Association, Kandy.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward for your information copy of a notice regarding the closing of certain foreign liquor shops in the town of Kandy.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
C. H. COLLINS,  
for Government Agent, C. P.

## RAGAMA CAMP.

Many complaints having been made regarding the delay incurred in the receipt of Ragama coolies' bills it was notified to the Committee that correspondence with Government was proceeding on this point. The Chairman also informed the meeting that he hoped to arrange that the bills should be sent direct from the camp to estates instead of by the circuitous method now employed.

## COAST AGENCY CESS.

Chairman intimated that this subject would again be brought up in February at the annual general meeting.

## COAST AGENCY.

Resolved:—"That the question whether all persons wishing to become subscribers to the Coast Agency should

be requested first to become members of their district Planters' Associations be brought up at the next meeting, and that the Secretary do in the meantime circularise Chairman of District Planters' Associations and obtain their opinions.

#### ORDINANCE No. 9 OF 1909.

Mr. Bliss informed the meeting that the proposed alterations in this Ordinance were receiving the attention of the sub-Committee appointed for this purpose and of its legal advisers.

#### LEGAL ADVISERS TO THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Resolved:—"That Messrs. Liesching & Lee be offered the title of legal advisers to the Planters' Association of Ceylon"

#### WARRANTS FOR EXECUTION IN INDIA.

Letters forwarded by the Dimbula District Planters' Association were laid on the table and the Secretary was directed to write to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary asking for information on this point.

#### POST-BOXES AT RAILWAY STATIONS.

Correspondence between the Postmaster-General and the Kotmale District Planters' Association was read.

Resolved:—"That the Secretary do write to the Kotmale Planters' Association and inquire whether the establishment of post-boxes on passenger trains would satisfy their requirements."

A vote of thanks to the chair terminated the meeting.

JOHN STILL,  
Secretary,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

### THE THIRTY COMMITTEE.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the "Thirty Committee" appointed to administer the proceeds of the export duty on tea levied under Ordinance No. 4 of 1894 for increasing the consumption of Ceylon tea in foreign lands, held at the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, on Friday, the 9th January, 1914, at 12-30 p.m.:—

PRESENT.—Mr. F. H. Layard (Chairman), Messrs. R. Huyshe Eliot, R. G. Coombe, H. Glyn Eccles, G. H. Gollidge, H. Inglis, J. B. Coles, G. C. Bliss, Wyndham R. Dunstan (visitor) and John Still (Secretary).—Nine members and one visitor.

The notice calling the meeting was read.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the "Thirty Committee" held at Kandy on Friday, the 12th September, 1913, were submitted for confirmation.

Resolved:—"That they be and they hereby are confirmed."

#### CEYLON PAVILION AT THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

Professor Dunstan explained to the meeting how he could advantageously make use of a further sum of money in decorating and furnishing the Ceylon pavilion at the Imperial Institute.

After discussion the members present unanimously decided to vote a sum of £500 to be ear-marked for this purpose and remitted to the Director of the Imperial Institute as required.

#### TEA KIOSK IN COLOMBO.

Read a letter from the Chamber of Commerce.

Resolved:—"That the Secretary do write to the Chamber of Commerce and say that it is proposed to hold a meeting in Colombo on the same day as the next Proprietors' Labour Federation meeting whereat this correspondence will be considered.

#### INTERNATIONAL RUBBER AND ALLIED TRADES EXHIBITION.

Resolved:—"That Rs. 1,000 be voted for the purpose of arranging a Ceylon Tea Exhibit at this Exhibition and that the Exhibition Committee be asked kindly to supervise the arrangements of the same."

#### ADVERTISING IN SWITZERLAND.

Read a letter from Mr. J. H. Renton.

Resolved:—"That £200 be voted for this purpose if Mr. Renton can guarantee that Ceylon interests will be duly safeguarded and that the money will be spent to good advantage."

A vote of thanks to the chair terminated the proceedings.

JOHN STILL,  
Secretary to the "Thirty Committee."



### KELANI VALLEY PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The Annual General Meeting of the above Association was held at Taldua on January 3rd preceded by a Committee meeting.

Present:—Messrs. J. D. Dunlop, J. C. Brereton, L. Bayly, Wells, Bains, F. B. Stevenson, D. B. Williamson, L. Cantlay, G. Loughman, F. Lushington, C. L. Tivy, A. H. Reid, R. B. Gillespie, Smith, Burnett, Cunningham, Gavin Robinson, Neave, C. S. Jones, A. C. Bowlby, J. W. Harley, C. F. Hutchinson, A. J. Martin, R. H. C. Edwards, Mitchell, A. Cantlay, F. Duncan, A. M. Carmichael, J. F. Elford, J. M. Mackenzie, De la Hoyde, Ellis, Tom Hyatt (Chairman) and R. H. Villiers (Hon. Secretary.)

Read telegram from Mr. H. L. Murray regretting inability to attend.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the Chairman read the Annual Report, which, together with the accounts, was unanimously adopted.

#### ANNUAL REPORT.

Gentlemen,—Your Committee have much pleasure in submitting the 29th annual report of this Association. During the year under review four Committee and five general meetings have been held, all of which were well attended.

**SCHEDULE.**—Four more estates have been registered members during the year and nine others have signified their intention of joining from January 1st.

**FINANCE.**—The financial position continues sound, the balance at credit being Rs. 223.20 against a balance last year of Rs. 157.27.

**LABOUR.**—Labour difficulties are still with us but in more modified forms than heretofore. The elimination of tea under rubber and the thinning out of closely-planted clearings are automatically relieving the shortage felt a few years ago. Labour generally has owing to the fall in rubber prices and the satisfactory pay coolies are earning become more settled, and movements of coolies in large gangs have become rare. It is to be hoped that loyal adherence to the rules of the P.L.F., together with an even greater effort to recruit only from the Coast, will tend to still further lessen labour troubles. So far 103 estates in the district, representing 57,586 acres out of a total of 125 estates and 71,577 acres or just over 80 per cent. of both have joined the P.L.F. As regards the Coast Agency the Labour Commissioner's last report to hand again shows the Kelani Valley far ahead of any other district in number of coolies recruited, the figures for the Valley being 18,567 with the next two highest 9,971 and 8,238 out of a total of 93,925 or close on 20 per cent. of the aggregate. It is to be hoped that with these figures before you those already doing so will continue to wholeheartedly support both institutions and that those who are still standing out will see their way to come in and still further strengthen the position to the benefit of all and the island generally.

**RAILWAYS.**—The General Manager and staff are to be heartily congratulated on the running of the K.V.R. during the year especially during the flood, there having been little or no congestion of transport as compared with previous years. Your Committee think, however, that more passenger accommodation might well be provided at stations in the way of waiting rooms and shelter from the elements.

An application to extend the railway from Karawarella to Bulathkohupitiya to benefit estates situated towards Undugoda and Lower Dolosbage, accompanied and supported by figures and statistics showing it to be a paying proposition from the start was made to Government, but for the present it is to be regretted Government declines to entertain the proposal. Your Committee are of opinion that this matter should not be allowed to drop and have reasonable hopes that when Government realise the conditions of transport in these outlying districts the extension will be granted.

**HOSPITALS.**—It is with pleasure that your Committee have to report the continued good working of the hospitals at Avisawella and Karawarella though the water supply of both would seem from the visitor's report, to leave much to be desired; (2) the commencement of the work on the paying ward at the latter; (3) the completion of the hospital at Kendangamuwa; and (4) the approaching completion of that at Undugoda which, it is hoped, will be opened in February next. This hospital, while conferring a great benefit on estates near Undugoda, Bulathkohupitiya, and Lower Dolosbage, will relieve any possible congestion at Karawarella and Kegalle. Owing to apparently unavoidable delay in acquiring the site it is to be regretted that practically nothing has been done towards the erection of the new hospital at Kitulgalla. The difficulties have however been overcome and it is to be hoped that by the end of next year this long-felt want will be realised.

**ROADS.**—Improvements to existing roads have been carried out during the year, and considering the weather conditions the main roads are in better order than usual. The question of new roads however leaves much to be desired, and your Committee have arranged for a meeting with the P.W.D. in the near future, being of opinion that a personal interview together with a thorough inspection of proposed road traces will do more towards getting what you require than any amount of letter-writing.

A sub-Committee was formed to go into and formulate schemes for the establishment of a European doctor and Chaplain

in the district and another for District Telephones. It is a matter for regret that neither of these Committees have been able to evolve any satisfactory scheme and it is hoped that another year will not be allowed to pass without a more determined effort being made to establish all three.

**DISTRICT COURT.**—The agitation for a District Court has been carried on and but for the delay on the part of the Colombo District Court in supplying a return of the number of cases sent there for jurisdiction from the Avisawella Police Court we should be very much nearer realising this much to be desired and very necessary convenience. The figures have now being collected and the matter again sent forward to Government.

**LIQUID FUEL.**—Installations have been put in at Avisawella and Yatiyantota and are proving a great convenience to those drawing their supplies from them.

**BENEVOLENT FUND.**—Your Committee would again call your attention to ask your support for this excellent institution which, strengthened by support from home, is now able to extend its operations and work on a larger and more generous scale.

**WEATHER AND CROPS.**—The weather throughout the year has been abnormal though not until the last quarter agriculturally unfavourable, the unexpected and continued rainfall in January and consequent loss of crop finding compensation in the mildness of the S.-W. monsoon from June to September. The first week of October will long be remembered for the greatest flood the district has ever experienced and the most disastrous. Great damage and loss was caused to estates, but this was as nothing compared with the absolute ruin brought upon villages and villagers throughout the whole length of the valley. The river rose no less than 49.7", and the towns of Yatiyantota, Ruawella, Karawarella, Dehiowita and parts of Avisawella were overwhelmed and buildings of a temporary nature washed away or destroyed, together with practically every village within reach of the river. The thanks of the district are due to the A.G.A. and his subordinates for the prompt measures taken to afford relief to the starving villagers, and to seize and destroy all damaged foodstuffs, also to those gentlemen living near these towns who were able and willing to provide labour without which, the debris could not have been cleared from the streets, nor the consequent and inevitable epidemic averted. The prompt and immediate action taken by the P.W.D. in restoring communications is a matter for congratulation to all concerned, and considering the damage to roads generally only very temporary inconvenience was felt.

The majority of estimated crops of both tea and rubber throughout the district generally have been secured except perhaps in the case of the latter, where sufficient allowance was not made for adverse weather conditions.

The quantity of tea produced continues to shrink owing to the interplanting of rubber, but the results of generous treatment in the past are to be seen in the estimates for next year still standing at over 10,000,000 pounds and the generally healthy appearance and freedom from disease of tea not interplanted.

The yield of rubber continues to increase with age cultivation in some degree as new acreage come into bearing. As will be seen the estimates for 1914 stand at a little over 104 million pounds or nearly 20 per cent. of the likely estimate for the whole island. In company with the unexpectedly early fall in price of the raw article the costs of production have been and are being still further reduced, and there is little doubt that some few promotions floated on inflated values will feel the drop in price seriously. Further markets previously shut to the product owing to its fictitious price will be opened, and the industry become a sounder proposition than ever.

There is little if any disease that cannot with careful attention be kept in check, bark canker being the most prevalent.

The following are the acreages under Tea and Rubber in the district and the crop estimates based on returns sent in by 125 estates:—



Tea alone 18,821 acres ... 10,846,600 pounds  
 Rubber in tea 52,756 acres ... 10,515,500 ..

But little opening of new land has taken place this year and that mostly in tea.

OBITUARY.—It is with great regret that your Committee have to record the deaths at home of Messrs. R. M. Dawkin, A. H. Roe and P. M. Mackenzie.

R. H. VILLIERS,  
 Hon. Secretary.

#### VISITORS' REPORT ON THE KARAWANELLA HOSPITAL.

This hospital was visited by us on December 31st, 1913. We were taken round it by the D.M.O., who showed us all the wards and concomitant buildings. The hospital generally was in good order, the wards being clean and the grounds tidy.

The number of patients in the hospital was 114, of which 73 were males and 41 females.

Anchylostomiasis and diarrhoea comprised the majority of cases present in the hospital but it is worthy of note that the D.M.O. has, to our personal knowledge, had some very serious surgical cases for treatment during the last few months, the results of which redound very much to his credit as a skilful operator.

The new latrines are now all finished with one exception which will be completed early in 1914.

The most crying need at this hospital now is the water supply which is in the same primitive condition it was in several years ago. In these days of careful attention to strict hygiene it is astonishing that such an up-to-date hospital as Karawanella should be dependent for its water supply on a well from which is drawn by the prehistoric method of a bucket and a rope. The amount of dirt and possible disease that may drip back from the coolies drawing water is better imagined than described. We may mention, however, that all the staff as well as the hospital are dependent on this one supply for all their water and that there is no system at all for properly flushing out the drains and precincts of the buildings. We thoroughly believe that an efficient engine to pump water, and a system of pipes for conveying the same to all points of the hospital could be installed at a comparatively low cost, say, Rs. 6,000 at the most, and we trust that this essential point may have the careful attention of the authorities as soon as it can possibly be attended to.

In conclusion it should be mentioned that most of the wards have now been rendered fly-proof, and that the paying ward which has been asked for some time has now been taken in hand and the foundations for it are now being cut.

F. LUSHINGTON,  
 D. B. WILLIAMSON,  
 Hospital Visitors.  
 30th December, 1913.

R. H. VILLIERS,  
 Hon. Secretary, K.V.P.A.

#### REPORT ON AVISAWELLA HOSPITAL, 1913.

THE STAFF consists of the D.M.O., D.M.A., Apothecary, Steward, Matron and two Nurses, all of whom were present on date of my visit.

THE WARDS are 9 in number and consist of 7 permanent and 2 temporary wards, containing 130 beds. While on the subject I may mention that I heard that Government contemplated pulling down the 2 latter; this I consider would be a very great mistake as they are of the greatest use to take in any overflow from the main building, besides which one of them can always be used as an isolation ward for infectious or serious cases of various natures.

They are in addition most excellently situated on a considerably higher elevation than the main building, and are substantially built for "temporary" buildings with cement floors and drains.

#### PATIENTS.

CIVIL.—In-door, 550. Out-door, 12,435. Total, 12,985 or say 13,000 allowing for one unexpired day.

ESTATE.—In-door, 1,331. Out-door, 2,398. Total, 3,729 or say 3,800.

#### DEATHS.

CIVIL.—85, or say 15½ per cent. of the in-door patients.

ESTATE.—268, or say 20 per cent. of the in-door patients.

I do not know how this percentage compares with other hospitals in the Island, but I do not think it can be considered high when it is remembered that most of the cases taken to the hospital are in a very advanced stage of disease. The diseases chiefly responsible for these deaths were

#### ANCHYLOSTOMIASIS AND DIARRHOEA.

THE CHIEF IMPROVEMENTS carried out during the year under review were in connection with the latrines and drainage: the former are now in a more satisfactory condition and work on the latter is still proceeding.

THE MOST URGENT PRESENT NEED is that the scheme for bringing water to the hospital, which has I understand been already sanctioned, should be undertaken at once and completed as soon as possible. In this connection I would suggest that Government come to an arrangement with Farnham Estate so as to prevent the possibility of any manuring being done within certain specified limits in the vicinity of the source of the supply. As far as I know the stream from which they propose to get their water rises in the rubber field above the hospital, and a little "fish" manure mixed with the water might considerably affect the death rate.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS.—1. I understand that a new building has already been sanctioned for the use of the apothecary and others, and I would suggest that when this is done the present quarters occupied by him might be converted into a "Paying Ward." These quarters consist of two rooms, and would cost very little to alter to this use. In these days of motors and possible "accidents" I think every hospital should have something of this sort, as it is not always advisable to move a case to Colombo, and it would often not be necessary if one had a comfortable "private" room on the spot. 2. Another rather urgent need to my mind is a room where the attendants (wards "orderlies," etc.) can retire to take their meals, etc.; at present there is no room of this sort and they have to eat their rice in the bath rooms, etc! 3. The kitchens want to be made much larger and more "airy," but I believe this matter is already under consideration.

GENERAL REMARKS.—At time of my visit the buildings and grounds were all in very decent order and clean: it is impossible to make the latter look "pretty" just now owing to work on drains, etc., being in progress, but I found nothing serious to complain of and no complaints as to food, etc., were made to me on going round.

R. BYRDE,

Hospital Visitor, K.V.P.A.

Ruanwella, 31st December, 1913.

C. P. R. C.

No. III. TROOP "B" SQUADRON.

Strength	...	...	20
On leave	...	...	2

All efficient and the majority extra efficient.

MUSKETRY.—There are 5 marksmen, 6 first-class shots, and the rest 2nd and 3rd. 14 officers N.C.O.'s and men passed the machine gun course.

Drills were fairly well attended, and the whole troop bar one or two those on leave turned out for the Commandant's yearly inspection.

Not many attended Camp this year, and it is hoped that a much larger number will attend in 1914.

Yours, &c.,

RONALD WELLS

#### K. V. DETACHMENT.

Strength 30th November, K.V.	...	...	38
Attached from motor section	...	...	2
Reserve	...	...	1
			—
			8
			—
To date extra-efficient	...	...	11
Efficient	...	...	20
On leave	...	...	2

There are five more men to shoot in December, and as they have done their required number of drills they are bound to become efficient so that at end of year there will be "efficient 25."

Besides these 38 there were during the year 14 men transferred or struck off the strength as follows:—

Transferred to other detachments, C.P.R.C.,	...	4
Transferred to reserve	...	2
Struck off	...	6
Transferred to C.M.R.	...	2
		—
		14

This shows that altogether I have had 55 men in the detachment during the year.

Mr. HYATT after briefly reviewing the work of the year and proposing a vote of thanks to the retiring Secretary, which was heartily and unanimously expressed, then vacated the chair.

Mr. DUNCAN having been called upon to take the chair temporarily in a characteristic and felicitous speech, amid loud cheers, thanked the retiring Chairman for his excellent work and proposed Mr. L. BAYLY as the new Chairman, the proposal being seconded by Mr. HYATT.

Mr. BAYLY, though pleading ignorance of the duties expected of him, then took the chair and proposed Mr. J. C. Mitchell as Hon. Secretary. The proposal having been seconded Mr. Mitchell was duly elected.

The meeting then proceeded to elect and appoint office-bearers for the ensuing year as follows:—

#### COMMITTEE.

AVISAWELLA.—Messrs. C. S. Jones, P. Byrde, and Cunningham.

YATIYANTOTA.—Messrs. R. I. Mackenzie and A. Cochrane.

DEHIOWITA.—Messrs. L. Cantlay, Lushington and Bell.

RUANWELLA.—Messrs. F. Duncan, D. B. Williamson and R. H. C. Edwards.

WAGA.—Mr. Elford.

KITULGALLA.—Mr. Carmichael.

UNDUGODA AND LOWER DOLOSABAGE.—Messrs. W. Murray and A. W. Cantlay.

#### HOSPITAL VISITORS.

AVISAWELLA.—Messrs. P. Byrde and C. S. Jones.

KARAWANELLA.—Messrs. D. B. Williamson and F. Lushington.

KENDANGAMPA.—Mr. P. G. Wood.

UNDUGODA.—Mr. A. W. Cantlay.

#### MEMBERS OF P. D. R. C.

COLOMBO.—Mr. C. S. Jones.

WAGA.—Mr. J. F. Elford.

KEGALLE.—Mr. A. W. Cantlay.

KANDY COMMITTEE.—Messrs. Elford, Carmichael, P. Byrde, D. B. Williamson, W. Murray and A. Reid.

#### THE CHAPLAIN.

The next item on the agenda being "Correspondence" the following extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Standing Committee of the Church Synod was read.

The Standing Committee are prepared to guarantee passage money Rs. 50/- and stipend of Rs. 30/- for three years

for a Chaplain for the Kelani Valley, a reasonable assurance is given from the district that the money will be re-paid.

After some little discussion in which Mr. Hutchinson took a leading part, the CHAIRMAN proposed that a small Committee consisting of Messrs. Jones and Williamson should take the matter up and enquire what reasonable assurance would be required and circularise all members asking what they would be prepared to subscribe towards the necessary funds.

#### TAVERNS.

The following letter from the G.A., W.P., was read:—

Colombo Kachcheri,

December 30th, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,

Kelani Valley Planters Association.

SIR,

I have the honour to enquire whether there are any arrack or toddy taverns in the Colombo district which your Association would like to see abolished when the 1914-1915 rents are sold.

2. It appears that round about Waga and Padukka the drinking habit is considerably on the increase, and I believe the demand is greatly from estate coolies.

3. If you think there is a case for the abolition of any taverns, I will look into the matter.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. R. FREEMAN,

Government Agent, W. P.

The representatives from Waga and Padukka, headed by Mr. Elford, spoke very strongly on the matter especially mentioning the tavern at Udagama as being a continual source of drunkenness and trouble, as a result of which the Hon. Secretary was instructed to write the G.A., W.P., and request the abolition of this tavern.

#### MOTORISTS AND ROADS.

The following letter from Mr. Hutchinson was read:—

Mapitigama Group, Avisawella,

December 4th, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,

K.V.P.A.

DEAR SIR,

Might I ask whether it is not possible, through the medium of this Association, to induce Government to make some arrangement, whereby motorists can be informed of the state of the Avisawella-Colombo road during the rainy seasons.

The motor traffic now is so great that I think it is time that the public should be able to obtain news as to the amount of water on this road, and this could be done by telegraphing to the P. W. D. offices at Avisawella and Colombo, so that passengers can obtain this news.

The cost to Government would be nil, and the benefit to those who use the road great. Only on the 3rd instant I telephoned to the head office in Colombo of the P.W.D. and the information I received was that nothing was known as to the state of the road, I had as an example to motor 64 miles as against 31 miles. On the 1st instant the same. Surely the P.W.D. must be kept informed by their officers as to the state of affairs in the country, especially on one of the most important roads.

Yours faithfully,

C. L. HUTCHINSON.

Decided that the C.A.C., be written to and requested to take the matter up.

#### ASSISTANCE TO THE P.W.D.

Read the following letter from the Colonial Secretary:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo, November 28th, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,  
Kelani Valley Planters' Association.

SIR,

I am directed by the Governor to convey an expression of His Excellency's appreciation of the assistance rendered to the Public Works Department by the planters of the Kelani Valley district on the occasion of the recent floods.

2. In particular His Excellency is desirous of thanking Mr. Marriot of Reucastle estate, Dehiowita, and Messrs. Mitchell and Payne of Panawatte and Degalessa estates, Yatiyantota, for their prompt and willing help.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
M. A. YOUNG,  
for Colonial Secretary.

#### VETERINARY STAFF.

Read letter to Colonial Secretary and reply:—

Waharaka, Undugoda,  
19th October 1913.

TO THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,  
Colombo.

DEAR SIR,

I have the honour to report that at a general meeting of this Association your letter of the 9th ultimo No. V.12766 having been read the following resolution was carried unanimously, and to request your approval and action in the matter:—

"That in view of the amount of cattle disease in the Island this Association considers the number of qualified veterinary surgeons quite inadequate and suggests the early appointment of one assistant qualified veterinary surgeon to each Province."

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,  
R. H. VILLIERS,  
Hon. Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo, 28th November, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,  
Kelani Valley Planters' Association.

SIR,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of the 19th October, 1913, on the subject of the staff of the Veterinary Department, I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to inform you that after careful consideration Government is unable to accept the suggestion of your Association that an assistant qualified veterinary surgeon be appointed to each Province.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
M. A. YOUNG,  
for Colonial Secretary.

Decided that the matter be referred to the Parent Association.

#### ROADS.

Read the following letters:—

Waharaka, Undugoda,  
19th December, 1913.

THE HON. THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS,  
Colombo.

SIR,

I have the honour on behalf of my Association to invite you to attend the next meeting of this Association on January 3rd, and to breakfast after. Letter-writing does not seem to help matters much as regards roads in this district, but we think that possibly some good might be done if you would be so good as to meet the Association personally and discuss matters. If information were forthcoming as to the intentions of Government as regards roads in the K.V. for the near future a lot of unnecessary letter-writing would be obviated. I would more especially mention the road from Kendangamuwa to Dehiowita.

My Association would take it as a great favour if you would come up on the 3rd and discuss the question of roads generally.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
R. H. VILLIERS,  
Hon. Secretary.

Public Works Office,  
Colombo, 22nd December, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,  
Kelani Valley Planters' Association,  
Waharaka, Undugoda.

SIR,

I have the honour to thank you for your letter of the 19th instant and the invitation therein conveyed, which I regret I am unable to accept as I have another engagement for the 3rd January.

I will, however, take an early opportunity of visiting the Kelani Valley and of meeting you, when we can talk over the matters in which your Association is interested.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
T. H. CHAPMAN,

Director of Public Works  
Waharaka, Undugoda,  
November, 18th, 1913.

#### THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of July 21st last No. 10123—

1. I have the honour to inform you that my Association quite see the point of Government not taking over private or D.R.C. roads below flood level, but would be much obliged for information as to the intentions of Government generally with regard to this very important connecting road between Kendangamuwa and Dehiowita.

2. It can scarcely be supposed that Government will cut a new road from Kendangamuwa towards Dehiowita leaving a section between these two points to private upkeep and that below flood level, nor that the Algoda Causeway will much longer be allowed to remain as the cause of the silting up of the Sitawaka river and consequent flooding of the surrounding country with every heavy fall of rain.

3. My Association would like to believe that Government being aware of the importance of this road to the district and the state it is in at present do intend continuing the new road from Kendangamuwa in place of the present below flood level track to join up with the section from Dehiowita to Algoda, and replacing the causeway with a bridge, but would be glad to receive a definite assurance from Government that this is the intention and at the same time information as to when the work, if sanctioned, will be carried out.

4. As the cutting of a new road from Kendangamuwa towards Woodend would seem to show that Government is aware of the importance of cross-roads it would perhaps be inopportune at this juncture to give figures and statistics to prove the necessity of this connection between Dehiowita and Kendangamuwa, but my Association would be glad to hear that Government is in agreement with this proposal and intends opening up this road on the lines suggested at an early date.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. H. VILLIERS.

Hon. Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Colombo, December 4th, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,

Kelani Valley Planters' Association,

Waharaka, Undugoda.

APPLICATION FOR A THROUGH ROAD FROM KENDANGAMUWA TO DEHIOWITA.

SIR,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of the 18th November, I am directed by the Governor to state that His Excellency can hold out no hope at the present time of Government undertaking either the construction of the road desired or the substitution of a bridge for the causeway at Algoda, the cost in either case being prohibitive.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

M. A. YOUNG,

for Colonial Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN said he thought the attitude taken by Government with regard to this was regrettable, but in view of the approaching visit of the D.P.W. to the district it would, he thought, be better to leave the matter alone till then.—Agreed.

#### RAILWAY MATTERS.

Read the following letters:—

THE GENERAL MANAGER,  
C.G.R., Maradana.

SIR,

It has been suggested that now coolies can be booked through from any station on the C.G.R. to any station on the S.L. Railway it would be a great convenience if the Ceylon Railway authorities would compile and issue a list of fares from stations in Ceylon to those on the S.L.R. inclusive of steamer or ferry freight. I now write on behalf of this Association to ask whether this could be done for the K.V.R. It would be most obliging of the Railway Department and very much appreciated by estate managers in this district.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Hon. Secretary.

Ceylon Government Railway,

General Manager's Office,

Colombo, November 28th, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,

Kelani Valley Planters' Association,

Waharaka, Undugoda.

RATES AND FARES INDO-CEYLON RAILWAY.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 20th instant, I have the honour to state that effect will be given to the proposal in due course.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

G. P. GREENE,

General Manager.

THE GENERAL MANAGER,  
C.G.R.

SIR,

A resolution to request the C.G.R. to erect a shelter from the weather at Avisawella station is to be brought at the next meeting of this Association in January, I would be much obliged if you would give me your views on the matter before the meeting. A first-class waiting room is really required, especially now Avisawella has become a junction of some importance. Trusting you will agree to our proposal.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Hon. Secretary.

Ceylon Government Railway,

General Manager's Office,

Colombo, December 19th, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,

Kelani Valley Planters' Association,

Waharaka, Undugoda.

IMPROVEMENTS TO AVISAWELLA RAILWAY STATION.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 13th instant, I have the honour to inform you that I shall be visiting Avisawella early in the new year (1914) in connection with new works and will look into the matter then personally.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

G. P. GREENE,

General Manager.

The CHAIRMAN said he hoped the request would be granted at an early date as the crowding at stations in either wet or very hot weather was most uncomfortable.

Read the following letter:—

Ceylon Government Railway,

General Manager's Office,

Colombo, 5th December, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,

Kelani Valley Planters' Association,

Waharaka, Undugoda.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 17th November, I have the honour to inform you that the improvements to the Kelani Valley level crossings which are being carried out in the financial year are only for the purpose of improving the view of the railway from the road. The work does not include the improvement of the surface of the crossings which are works under the control of the Director of Public Works.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

G. P. GREENE,

General Manager.

The CHAIRMAN said he understood improvements to the road surface at level crossings were being carried out but it was clear from this letter that the C.G.R. were not responsible for the work.

The following letter was read:—

Ratnapura, Kacheheri,

20th December, 1913.

R. H. VILLIERS, Esq.,

Hon. Secretary, K.V.P.A.,

Waharaka, Undugoda.

PROPOSED KELANI VALLEY RAILWAY EXTENSION FROM KARAWANELLA TO BULATHKORUPITIYA.

SIR,

I have the honour to state that I have been directed to inform you that after full consideration His Excellency the Governor

regrets that he can hold out no hope of being able to undertake the proposed Railway extension to Bulathkohupitiya in the near future.

2. The question of the deviation of the Pindeniya Road is still under consideration. A further communication on this subject will be sent to you at a later date.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
R. N. THAINE,  
Government Agent,  
Sabaragamuwa.

Mr. VILLIERS said it was to be regretted that Government had declined to entertain the proposal but hoped it was only for temporary reasons and that after further consideration on the part of Government extension would be granted. Meanwhile the matter, of so much importance to the outlying parts of the district concerned, should not be allowed to drop.

Agreed unanimously.

#### DISTRICT TELEPHONES.

Mr. L. H. CANTLAY regretted that the report of his sub-Committee was not quite ready but gave a rough idea of what their proposals would be. These were considered good, and Mr. Cantlay was asked to carry on, and, if possible, to bring forward a complete scheme at the next meeting of the Association.

#### THE P. L. F.

Mr. HUTCHINSON brought forward two resolutions, but as due notice had not been given discussion on the matter was voted out of order by 17 to 14.

#### RESOLUTION FROM OTHER ASSOCIATIONS.

Agreed that that from the Kotmalie Association *re* warehouse charges and pillar boxes should be supported, while that from the Sabaragamuwa Association, *re* Labour Commission Staff being already before the Parent Association had better be left to that body to deal with.

#### NEW MEMBERS.

Read the list of new members:—Knavesmire, Tellisford, Malaboda and Amitirigalla.

INTENDING TO JOIN FROM JANUARY 1ST, 1914.—Mugahawella, Moragalla, Havilland, Maskeloya, Damblagolla, Dote-loya (Cardamom Estate), Ugieside, Kalupane and Picadilly.

PRIVATE VOTE.—Gangwarily.

Mr. HYATT said he thought a vote of thanks was due to Mr. Thornhill, the District Engineer, and to the General Manager and the staff of the C.G.R. for the prompt measures taken to restore communications at the time of the floods of October. This was unanimously agreed to, and the Hon. Secretary was instructed to write accordingly.

The proceedings then closed with a vote of thanks to the chair.

R. H. VILLIERS,  
for Hon. Secretary.

#### MASKELIYA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A General Meeting of the Maskeliya Planters' Association was held on Thursday last at the Maskeliya Club at 8 p.m., preceded by a Committee Meeting half-an-hour earlier. Messrs. R. Maclure, C. E. Wedd, H. C. Hood, P. Chapman, J. E. Massy, P. H. Unwin, J. B. Cotton, S. F. Noyes, A. P. Jukes, and C. B. Prettejohn (Hon. Secretary), were present at the meeting of the Committee. At the General Meeting Mr. L. A. Wright took the chair, in the unavoidable absence through illness of Mr. Hew Kennedy the Chairman of the Association, and the others present were:—Messrs. C. E. Wedd, J. P. Chapman, J. E. Massy, Creasy Hood, P. H. Unwin, J. B. Cotton, W. H. Brymer, F. J. Reiss, Andrew W. Greig, W. B. Braine, Fred. Charnaud, R. G. Rolfe Rogers, A. G. Spiers, R. Maclure, P. C. Adams, A. P. Jukes, D. Finch Noyes, F. O. Sprinks, A. d. L. Brainbrige, and C. B. Prettejohn (Hon. Secretary).

The CHAIRMAN having referred to the absence of Mr. Kennedy, who he was glad to say was much better that day.

The HON. SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting. The minutes of the last meeting were then taken as read and duly confirmed.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

The HON. SECRETARY read an acknowledgment from Chairman, P. R. C., of his letter *re* cutting back blind corners on main roads and said that that was all before them. He then read the following letter from the C. S. O. regarding a Veterinary Surgeon at Hatton:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo, September 26th, 1913.

Sir,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of September 6th, 1913, I am directed to inform you that the strength of the Staff of the Government Veterinary Department does not permit of a separate qualified Veterinary Surgeon being stationed at Hatton.

2. An experienced Stock Inspector is stationed at Hatton and an Assistant Veterinary Surgeon with Bombay professional qualifications in veterinary science is stationed at Kandy and can, if required, quickly reach Hatton.

I am, Sir, &c.,  
D. W. ARNOTT,  
for Colonial Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN said the Veterinary Surgeon at Kandy might be sent to Trincomalee or Dambulla and would not be much use to them. He advised that they went on agitating for a man at Hatton. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. C. E. WEDD said they ought to put the matter through and moved as follows:—"That this Association regrets that owing to the shortage in the staff, the Government Veterinary Department cannot place a separate qualified man at Hatton and would point out that owing to the now frequent outbreaks of Surra in this and the surrounding districts a qualified Veterinary Surgeon is more than ever necessary, and hope that the G.V.D. will re-consider the matter and increase their staff to enable them to place a qualified man at Hatton."

The HON. SECRETARY seconded.

The CHAIRMAN said that, before putting the motion to the meeting, he would like to say that Surra at Talawakelle made the matter rather serious. (Hear, hear.)

The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

The next item of correspondence was in regard to turning-place for cars and carriages at Maskeliya Hospital, the last letter on the subject being one from Government that instructions had been issued for making a turning-place in front of the Hospital.

The CHAIRMAN said they thanked Government for what was being done. (Hear, hear.)

The rest of the correspondence related to Kachcheri notices re gun and cart licenses and to an alleged case of rinderpest which turned out to be really one of Surra.

#### LABOUR.

The HON. SECRETARY read the resolution from the Sabaragamuwa P. A.

Mr. D. F. NOYES wished to know if the matter was coming up at Kandy the next day.

The CHAIRMAN said it was, and as that seemed to meet the views of Sabaragamuwa, he proposed that the resolution be acknowledged without comment, as they were not discussing it because it was to come up at Kandy.

#### TIN-TICKET BILLS.

The HON. SECRETARY then read a letter from Mr. C. E. Wedd forwarding the following resolution:—

The Maskeliya P. A. would call the attention of the G. A. to the extremely dilatory way in which tin-ticket bills are now forwarded to estates. They would respectfully request that a sufficient clerical staff be employed to keep the work more up to date.

Mr. C. E. WEDD, speaking to the resolution, said coolies' bills were extremely difficult to recover. Some coolies came to him in August last, but no bill was sent and in the meantime some of them went to another estate. This kind of delay led to endless correspondence.

The HON. SECRETARY had a similar experience. A Kanungu gave notice on the 1st August last and left at the end of that month. From him the coolies had gone elsewhere and now he did not know where they were, which made it most difficult to recover their money.

A slight alteration suggested by the Chairman having been made in the resolution.

Mr. CREASY HOOD proposed as an amendment that the G. A. be asked to send tin-ticket bills like any monthly account.

Mr. D. F. NOYES supported the amendment.

Mr. P. CHAPMAN pointed out that if the accounts were rendered as ordinary accounts the bills might get lost in the post.

Mr. HOOD's amendment was then formally seconded by Mr. J. B. COTTON, but on its being suggested that the original motion and the amendment should be joined together, the motion and the amendment should be put to the vote being strong points in both, the motion was put to the vote in the following terms and carried unanimously:—

The Maskeliya P. A. would beg to call the attention of the G. A., C.P., to the extremely dilatory way in which tin-ticket bills are now rendered to estates.

2. They would respectfully request that these accounts be rendered monthly to avoid the present difficulty of recovering dues after coolies have been paid off to other estates.

#### ROADS.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from the Chairman, Dikoya P. A., regarding temporary repairs to Warleigh bridges.

The CHAIRMAN, referring to their contribution, said they paid the piper, and he thought they should call on Government for a report by a Government Engineer of what it would cost to put the bridge in thorough order. On Tuesday last the whole bridge was under water and was probably more damaged than when the Dikoya P. A. wrote.

Mr. D. F. NOYES thought that owing to the very undermined condition of the planks Government might be asked to report on the cost of repairing the bridge. The bank had to go. The cross-current was digging it out as far back as the bamboos.

The CHAIRMAN agreed, and said the Hon. Secretary be asked to draft a letter to Government on the subject. There was no use in spending small sums on temporary improvements, so he asked them whether the Rs. 83 due by them should be sent. They would have to make a considerable detour if there were no bridge, and a wire-bridge was of no use to horses. The ford was unsafe, but there was a considerable pilgrim traffic and so it was more a matter for Government.

Mr. C. E. WEDD: After these floods the Rs. 83 may have grown considerably. (Laughter.) The Rs. 83 would not support the bridge, for the abutments were bound to go. He thought there was no use in sending their Rs. 83.

It was then proposed by Mr. MASSY, seconded by Mr. HOOD, and carried that the Rs. 83 be kept back till a report was received in terms of the Hon. Secretary's letter to Government.

#### ROADS.

The HON. SECRETARY read his letter of the 2nd September to the D. E. and the latter's reply of the 8th October, relating to passing-places on roads for motor-transport.

The CHAIRMAN said that since that correspondence they had received a circular from the Chairman, D. R. C., with a different estimate for making sidings at intervals of a quarter-of-a-mile. The question was what it would cost?

Mr. D. F. NOYES said their roads were not fit for motor traffic. He had received a circular from the Chairman, P. R. C., giving estimate, for four passing-places per mile, but he was told that their moiety of the cost of that would be heavily increased in the near future. The Chairman, P. R. C., also wanted to know if land would be given free. Motor traction simply had to come and he thought Government should collect their contribution on the usual acreage cess. The Government proposed four passing-places a mile to begin with, then eight the next year until the road was of a uniform width. Now, four passing-places of 120 x 10 a mile would cost Rs. 337, of which their share would be Rs. 170. He suggested that they should send a resolution that sidings

were wanted at every furlong and that would make their contribution Rs. 337. This was part of the scheme of putting roads in order for motor-traction. The roads were all grant-in-aid ones, and they would have to pay for them.

The CHAIRMAN bringing the discussion to a close, said the question of motor transport was not before them except in their letter read by the Hon. Secretary. He suggested that the Hon. Secretary write to the D. E. asking for an estimate for their total cost for the next five years of putting the roads in order for motor transport, and for the weight of the lorry allowed on each.

#### RAILWAY.

The HON. SECRETARY read the following resolutions of the Kotmale P. A. :—

1. That Government be asked to forego Warehouse rent on goods to such estates and for such time as roads are closed by floods and washaways.

2. That Government be asked to establish postal pillar boxes at all railway stations.

The CHAIRMAN commended the resolutions to the meeting and it was agreed that the Kotmale P. A. be supported.

#### HATTON STATION.

The HON. SECRETARY read the following letter from the General Manager, C. G. R., forwarding a plan of proposed improvements to the Hatton Station :—

G.M.'s Office,  
Colombo, 2nd October, 1913.

SIR,

With reference to my letter No. 1,751 of the 31st May last, in connection with improvements to Hatton Station I now have the honour to send you herewith a plan No. 2,655 which shows certain improvements which I suggested shall be submitted to Government for approval in connection with the New Works for the next financial year. These improvements are the result of personal inquiries made by me at Hatton Station, and as will be seen they consist of a new cooly shelter, 58 feet by 15 feet, and also improved waiting room accommodation for ladies and gentlemen.

2. The alterations appear to me to be suitable and I shall be obliged if you will lay them before your Association and let me know whether they meet the wishes thereof. It must be understood that in the carrying out of works of this sort I must pay due attention to economy, and I think that the scheme I have made up will considerably increase the comfort of Hatton Station. Under another estimate provision is made for improvements to the refreshment room during the current year.

3. I shall be obliged if you will lay the plan before your Association; and having done so, will you kindly forward it direct to the Hon. Secretary, Dikoya P.A., so that they may have an opportunity of looking at the plan.

I am, Sir, &c.,  
G. P. GREENE,  
General Manager.

The CHAIRMAN said they might write to the C.G.R. and thank them for the promised improvements and suggest in their letter a small improvement to the cooly shelter. It had no latrine as shown in the plan and one was necessary.

This having been agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN added that what was really wanted was a broader platform, but, of course, all improvements as the G.M. said in his letter had to be carried out with due re-

gard to economy. However, the large numbers of pilgrims at the station made it unpleasant to pass through and a broader platform was a real need.

The last item on the agenda the Medical Scheme was then discussed by the meeting in Committee, and a sub-Committee of the Chairman and Messrs. Jukes and Mac-lure were appointed to draw up a circular to all proprietors or their representatives in the district asking for immediate replies to the circular already sent round.

This closed the business, and with a hearty vote of thanks to the chair the meeting terminated.

#### BADULLA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A General Meeting of the above Association was held in the Town Hall, Badulla, at 10 a.m. on Saturday, 13th December, preceded by a Committee meeting at 9-30 a.m. In the unavoidable absence of the Chairman (Mr. T. G. Elliott), Mr. R. Gatehouse was elected to the chair, on the proposal of Mr. R. STEWART, seconded by Mr. A. E. PETER. Other members present at the General meeting were :—Messrs. J. W. Scott, Robert Stewart, A. E. Peter, Geo. Stewart, C. F. Way, H. T. R. Ford, A. I. Jainu Deen, N. F. Palmer, E. G. A. Palmer, T. B. Coombe, Roger Bannerman, W. J. Rettie (Hon. Secretary), and the following visitors :—Messrs. N. Bannerman, J. D. Forbes and J. D. Walker.

The minutes of last meeting were submitted and confirmed.

#### P.R.C. MEMBER FOR 1914.

Mr. R. STEWART, seconded by Mr. J. W. SCOTT, proposed that Mr. R. Gatehouse be elected to represent the Association on the Provincial Road Committee for 1914. —Carried.

#### MINOR ROADS.

The grants for 1914 were discussed, and the CHAIRMAN asked any members desirous of obtaining an increase to send in the necessary particulars to the P.R.C. Member. Road No. 27 was transferred to Mr. Gray's control, at the request of Mr. R. Stewart. Mr. E. G. A. Palmer applied for an increase grant on road No. 13, and Mr. N. F. Palmer for an additional sum of Rs. 50 on road No. 19.

#### ANNUAL REPORT.

Mr. R. STEWART, seconded by Mr. PETER, proposed that the following Committee be elected to draw up the Annual report for 1913 :—Messrs. J. W. Scott, R. Gatehouse, Chairman and Hon. Secretary.—Carried.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from the Secretary, C.P.A. enclosing copy of the following resolution passed at a Committee meeting held on November 14th.

#### THEFTS OF TEA AND RUBBER PLANTS.

It was resolved :—"That the details of these cases shall be forwarded to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, with a request that legislation may be introduced to prevent the evil."

The CHAIRMAN explained that this was the outcome of a resolution sent in by the Association, and suggested that members should submit particulars of any cases which had come under their notice to the Hon. Secretary to be forwarded to Kandy.

#### LIQUID FUEL STORAGE.

Correspondence regarding liquid fuel storage accommodation at Bandarawella was read. The CHAIRMAN said that the General Manager of the Railway had granted permission to Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co., to erect another 8,000 gallon tank at their Bandarawella Installation, but there appeared to be some difficulty in securing a suitable site. He hoped that this would be overcome—as the shortage of supplies was being keenly felt by a number of estates. Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co. were doing their best to push the matter and he hoped the Association would give them any support necessary. With regard to rolling, he understood that six tank wagons were on order, but it would doubtless be some time before they could be put on the line. It was decided to await Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth's representations, and, if necessary, to give them the Association's support in obtaining a site.

#### PRIVATE MEDICAL PRACTITIONER SCHEME.

Read letter from the Passara and Haputale Associations regarding the Private Medical Practitioner Scheme.

The CHAIRMAN regretted that the latter Association was unable to give its support. He was of opinion that the advantages of such a scheme should be more strongly advocated, and offered to attend the next meeting of the Haputale P.A. with that object. He proposed that a complete scheme and figures be drawn up by the sub-Committee appointed as soon as possible, and members circularised.

The HON. SECRETARY understood that individual members of the Haputale Association were in favour of the proposal, though they did not support it as a body, and thought that if a workable scheme was formulated the matter would go through.

Data could be submitted by the sub-Committee at the next General Meeting and, if satisfactory, laid before the first combined meeting of the Province's P.A.'s. Both these proposals were carried.

#### TELEPHONE RATES.

Read letter from the Acting Superintendent of Telegraphs to the effect that no alterations had been made in the rates charged in all parts of the Island where Telephone Exchange were sanctioned. Resolved that this matter be brought before H.E. the Governor by the proposed deputation.

The resolution from the Sabaragamuwa P.A., that the staff of the Ceylon Labour Commission should be greatly increased and an increase of the cess should be made, was read. A discussion ensued and it was decided to support the resolution, the CHAIRMAN remarking that this matter could be left to the Parent P.A. to deal with.

#### WAREHOUSE RATES—PILLAR BOXES.

Read the resolutions sent by the Kotmale P.A. for support:—Regarding warehouse rent on goods during floods and washaways; and the establishment of postal pillar boxes at all railway stations.

Mr. A. E. PETERS was of opinion that the former resolution did not affect the district as full allowance was made at Bandarawella for the removal of goods.

Mr. WAT remarked that the proposal to place pillar boxes at railway stations would be a great convenience, and moved that the resolution be supported.—Carried.

Read letter from the Passara P.A. suggesting that a joint deputation of the Province's P.A.'s should arrange to wait on H.E. the Governor, to bring to his notice conditions existing in Uva, especially in regard to outlets, and that three members be elected to represent each Association.

The meeting was entirely in favour of the idea, and Mr. R. STEWART, seconded by Mr. J. W. SCOTT, proposed that:—“Mr. James Duncan, the Chairman and Hon. Secretary be asked to represent the Association on the deputation.”—Carried.

A vote of thanks to the Chair terminated the proceedings.

WILFRED RETTIE,

Hon. Secretary, Badulla P.A.

#### NUWARA ELIYA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

There was a good attendance at the annual meeting of the Nuwara Eliya District Planters' Association, which took place at the Hill Club on Saturday. The chair was taken by Mr. E. C. Elliott (Chairman), and there were also present: Messrs. N. W. Davies, A. J. Volun, E. H. Mellor, C. T. Nettleton, H. J. Temple, R. I. Hughes, E. Wilson Smith (visitor), L. O. Gilliat, W. P. Spurway, W. R. Matthew, L. V. Neligan, Jas. Forbes, jr. (visitor), A. L. Sinclair, N. Bayner Smith, and R. F. Megginson (Hon. Secretary). Dr. E. Langley Hunt (Medical Itinerating Inspector of Colombo) was also present.

The CHAIRMAN said the first business was to receive the annual report which had been circulated among the members. He suggested that it should be taken as read, but before they proceeded to pass the report he might say that the past season had been about the best the Nuwara Eliya district had ever known. Speaking generally there was nothing the Association had particularly wanted that they had not obtained. With regard to the Nuwara Eliya hospital a letter had been received from the P. C. M. O. saying that the recommendations made by the Association for the improvement of the hospital had been adopted, and that Government had been asked to place them in the estimates for the coming financial year. The price of rice had been rather a serious matter during the year, and several districts had



gone in for kurrakkan; and he understood that Dr. Langley Hunt held that kurrakkan was more nutritious and not inferior to rice as a food. The roads in the districts had been taken in hand and with Mr. Robinson, a particularly energetic road Engineer, at the head of affairs, it was to be hoped that the roads would show a great improvement during the next few months.

#### THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The report was then adopted. It read as follows:—

During the past year four Committee and four general meetings have been held. The average attendance shows an improvement, and your Committee would urge members to attend even more regularly, as full meetings undoubtedly carry more weight when important matters come up for discussion.

The total number of subscriptions to this Association is 25, representing 19 estates and 6 private voters, an increase of 3 estates as compared with 1912, while the number of private voters remains the same.

The annual official estimates of the tea crop for 1914, for this district is as follows:—

Nuwara Eliya	Estates.	Total tea	Acreage in	Crop.
Kandapola		acreage.	bearing.	
New Gaiway	19	6,867	6,008	3,540,000
Welimada				

The estimated yield for 1914 thus works out at 589 lbs. per acre, which shows a substantial increase in yield per acre on recent years.

The rainfall for the year under review has been without precedent, exceptionally wet weather having been experienced in January and again in December. But, though temporary inconvenience was caused, no material ill-effect on the season's output resulted.

The market generally has been a very favourable one for Ceylon teas, and those estates in this district which sell in Colombo have recorded very satisfactory prices. The London market, however, during the latter six months has been disappointing in not having supported high grown teas to the same extent as in 1912, the demand having been principally for low and medium.

Labour has been more or less adequate for normal requirements, and advances generally seem to have remained much the same. Approximately 38.62 per cent. of the acreage of estates subscribing to this Association have joined the Proprietors' Labour Federation, and local development of this scheme are awaited with interest. A considerable number of coolies have been recruited through the Ceylon Labour Commission, and those estates availing themselves of the recently-instituted system of booking the coolies direct from Tuticorin to their villages, with provision for feeding them *en route*, have found it much appreciated, as the opportunities of blackmail by subordinate Indian officials of all kinds are thereby much lessened.

The general health of the coolies has been good, and no epidemic of any importance has occurred.

The price of rice has been exceedingly high throughout the year, and losses to estates have been very serious. It is satisfactory to note that the Parent Association has taken the matter up, and it is to be hoped that some solution of this important question will shortly be arrived at.

It is gratifying to note the prompt measures taken by the Ceylon Government Railway to restore interrupted communications during the floods, which were such a remarkable feature of the past year, and it is to be regretted that the Postal Department did not show equal enterprise.

The roads in the district have undoubtedly deteriorated during the last three years, but your Committee is glad to see that energetic steps are at last being taken to restore them to the standard that prevailed some years ago.

The hospital has been frequently inspected by the unofficial visitors nominated by this Association, and the recent additions and improvements have met with general approval, and it is to be hoped that the further recommendations that have been submitted to the P.C.M.O. will be carried out at an early date.

Since the last dry weather a Refuse Destructor has been erected at the Board of Improvement Sewage Farm adjoining Fairyland estate, and it is expected that the fly nuisance in the neighbourhood will thereby be considerably abated next dry weather.

The Planters' Benevolent Fund has been well supported, the majority of estates and members subscribing thereto.

The Finances of the Association are in a satisfactory condition,—the balance carried forward to 1914 of Rs. 73.98 being Rs. 22.11 more than that brought forward at the beginning of the year.

Signed,—E. C. ELLIOTT (Chairman), W. B. MATTHEW, EDWIN G. COULSON, W. POYNTZ SPURWAY, R. F. MEGGINSON (Hon. Secretary.)

#### THE REVISED RULES.

The draft of the revised rules was then submitted by the Committee appointed at the last general meeting, and, with two slight amendments, was adopted. The amendments laid it down that subscriptions are to be paid not later than January 31st, and that members absent from general meeting may still vote by proxy, such proxy to be presented by a member of the Association.

Mr. ELLIOTT then announced that the next business was the election of officers for the coming year, and, having thanked the members of the Association for their support during his term of office, vacated the chair.

The chair was temporarily taken by Mr. N. W. DAVIES, and Mr. SPURWAY proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman. In seconding, Mr. DAVIES said he thought Mr. Elliott deserved considerable thanks. The speaker had noticed that during Mr. Elliott's two years of office they had had very much better attendances at the meetings of the Association than they used to have, and he thought this was very largely due to the energy Mr. Elliott had displayed in getting members to attend and in interesting them in the doings of the Association. It was only right that they should formally recognise the good work Mr. Elliott had put in and the keenness he had displayed, and he thought that at the same time they could associate the Hon. Secretary's name with the resolution.

The vote of thanks was then carried unanimously, and, in replying, Mr. ELLIOTT said he thought Mr. Megginson deserved a great deal of the credit and he was sure they could not have found a better Hon. Secretary.

The HON. SECRETARY returned thanks and declared that without Mr. Elliott he would have been lost.

#### MR. A. J. VOLUM ELECTED CHAIRMAN.

On the motion of Mr. E. C. ELLIOTT, seconded by Mr. W. P. SPURWAY, Mr. A. J. Volum was elected Chairman, and took his place at the head of the table for the first time amidst applause. In a few words Mr. Volum

thanked the meeting for the honour it had done him and promised to do his best to help, carry on the Association in the same able manner as Mr. Elliott had done. (Applause.)

Mr. DAVIES.—Hear, hear. Maintain his traditions.

#### OTHER ELECTIONS.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the re-election of Mr. R. F. Megginson as Hon. Secretary, and this was unanimously agreed to.

The following other appointments were made:—

COMMITTEE: Messrs. N. G. Campbell and W. R. Mathew (Nuwara Eliya), E. C. Elliott and E. G. Coulson (Kandapola), N. Rayner Smith and W. P. Spurway (Wellmade), and H. J. Temple and A. L. Sinclair (New Galway.)

KANDY REPRESENTATIVES: Messrs. N. G. Campbell and N. W. Davies.

STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—The Chairman, Mr. A. J. Volum, ex-officio and Mr. H. Campbell.

HOSPITAL VISITORS: Messrs. E. C. Elliott and W. P. Spurway.

It was decided to ask Mrs. N. G. Campbell to continue to act as lady visitor at the Baker's Ward of the Nuwara Eliya Hospital.

Mr. H. H. Phelps of Nuwara Eliya and Mr. D. H. Young, of Kandapola, were elected as new members.

#### Dr. Langley Hunt's Address.

A most interesting address was then delivered by Dr. E. LANGLEY HUNT, who has recently made a tour of inspection of the coolie lines on many of the estates in this part of the Island. He was very glad indeed to have that opportunity of speaking on a subject which was of vital interest to planting in Ceylon—the well-being of the labour force. The value of an estate to a planter was absolutely nil without the human factor which made the resources available, and the speaker thought that any well-directed expenditure or trouble which might be taken in looking after the coolies was more than repaid in the greater efficiency and working capabilities the coolies would naturally attain. Mr. Davies had kindly given him some figures from which he proposed to quote. In spite of what was usually said concerning statistics there was no getting behind the figures of Mr. Davies. It was very interesting to note that the mortality among adult coolies in this district was very low, but that the

#### MORTALITY AMONG INFANTS

was extremely high. While the mortality among adults was only .8 per cent., it was over 44 per cent. among infants, and, of this 44 per cent., 39 per cent. occurred among children before they reached the age of 12 months. He had been trying to go into this question from the point of view of local conditions since he had been in the Nuwara Eliya district, but unfortunately, Mr. Davies had given him the rather difficult task of visiting three or four estates a day. He had had a conversation with an apothecary who looks after a great many estates in the district,

and that apothecary had declared that the infantile mortality was largely due to hereditary taints. However, personally he believed the number of hereditary cases of venereal diseases, etc., was relatively small, and it was very hard to account for the large infantile mortality in this district. Undoubtedly a large number of deaths were due to carelessness on the part of the mother during pregnancy and shortly afterwards. Then there could be little doubt that other children—particularly girls—were done away with, not murdered, but reared under such conditions that their chances of living were extremely small.

Estates close together should join in employing a midwife to look after children coming into the world and shortly afterwards, and to impress upon the mother a few simple rules as to rearing the infants. This had already been tried in some parts of the Island with marked success, and infantile mortality had been reduced from 50 per cent. to 7½ per cent. on estates where the trouble and expense had been taken of employing a midwife. The expense was not very great, for the midwife employed need only be a Tamil woman educated for the work in Colombo.

#### CAUSES OF MORTALITY.

Although the mortality among adults in this district was very low, an enormous number of days were lost by the coolies as a result of preventible diseases. Statistics provided by the estate apothecary he had mentioned showed that during last year 2,392 coolies were sick and on this account 9,070 days' work were lost to the estates. In the speaker's opinion this was a very serious matter. Most of this sickness was due to preventible causes which he would try to enumerate. The chief causes of illness among coolies were damp and dirt, overcrowding and want of ventilation, and badly or insufficiently cooked food.

#### DIRT AND DAMP

were two of the worst difficulties one had to contend with. For instance, it was to these causes that the propagation of hook worm and other diseases was due, but fortunately hook worm was not so prevalent in the Nuwara Eliya district as in the low-country. Until some system of sanitation and hygiene was adopted in the lines and in their surroundings these troubles would continue to exist. The diseases most prevalent in the Nuwara Eliya district were brought on by damp and by dirt. Coolies up-country suffered a great deal from pneumonia and from what was loosely termed influenza. In regard to influenza, however, the speaker did not think this malady existed to the extent generally supposed. From 70 to 80 per cent. of the children were suffering from running at the nostrils and from inflammation of the nasal passages and this was frequently indicative of bronchitis or other lung trouble.

With regard to

#### OVERCROWDING AND WANT OF VENTILATION,

Dr. Langley Hunt admitted that the coolie will insist upon building in his lines. With coast recruited labour it was quite natural that coolies brought from a low elevation straight away to estates 6,000 or 7,000 feet above sea level should do so in order to keep as warm as possible. With cer-

tain qualifications he would be the last to advise that they should be prevented from doing so. From what he had seen of cooly lines in this part of the Island he was sorry to have to say that in the majority of cases the sites had been injudiciously chosen originally. He did not for a moment suggest that this was any fault of modern planters, but in the old days insufficient care was taken in seeing that the lines were suitably placed. A great many of the lines he had seen here were built in exposed positions which caught the North-East and the South-West Monsoons. He impressed upon his hearers the importance of the position of the lines as affecting the health of the cooly, and urged that where they (the planters) had a bad type of lines or a bad set of lines they should not go on throwing good money after bad in trying to improve those lines. Wherever money was available he advised that they should neglect the old lines and build new ones. The coolies would then take to the new lines in order to get away from the discomforts of the old. It was his experience that nothing could be done with a rush, and the wedge must be driven in slowly.

Planters would be well advised to think—and he was convinced that they did think—of the advisability of improving the surroundings of their labour forces, and with gradual improvement they would eventually develop a healthier and far better environment for the coolies than existed at present.

In regard to ventilation he suggested that it should be a "sine qua non" that there should be a certain amount of space between the wall and the roof thus creating a current of air without causing a draught, which would not and could not cause discomfort to the cooly.

Turning to the

#### QUESTION OF FOOD

he said he was glad this was receiving attention. The planting community were at present losing enormous sums of money in obtaining rice. Rice was a most indifferent diet, lacking in nitrogenous constituents and in the mineral salts necessary to life, and contained an excess of starch. The reason it was so popular a diet with the cooly was the fact that it was the most easily digested starch food. While he did not think rice would ever be supplanted as the staple food of the cooly he was hopeful that the cooly's diet might be augmented. A properly-constituted diet would be doubly a saving to the planter, for coolies would need only half as much of such a food as they at present needed of rice, and, moreover, would work well on that half instead of imperfectly on rice.

In conclusion he wished to thank the Chairman and other gentlemen who had extended hospitality to him during his visit to the Nuwara Eliya district. Everything possible had been done to make him comfortable.

#### KURAKKAN.

Mr. E. C. ELLIOTT said there had been a good deal of discussion lately as to the value of kurakkan as a food, and he wished to know Dr. Langley Hunt's opinion.

Dr. LANGLEY HUNT said kurakkan as a food was far superior to rice, but they had to remember that in dealing with coolies they were dealing with a very conservative class. Kurakkan was a much more difficult food to cook than rice, and was far more indigestible. In many parts of India where the ground was not suitable to the cultivation of rice he understood that kurakkan was eaten to a very considerable extent, and that satisfactory methods of cooking were in vogue. However, he did not think kurakkan would ever supersede rice as the staple food of the cooly in Ceylon, but he did think it could and would become a very valuable adjunct to rice. He did not think it would ever be possible to force the coolies' hand in the matter, however.

Another member said he understood that Dr. Langley Hunt was of opinion that the ideal way to build lines was facing East and West.

Dr. LANGLEY HUNT agreed. The great mistake made in Ceylon was the placing of drains in the eaves the lines were facing East and West they did not get the sun into them. As to the drains in the eaves they were constantly fouled unless properly flushed. The worst drain they could have was a drain under the eaves unless properly flushed.

Mr. DAVIES proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Dr. Langley Hunt for the "whole-hearted and broad-minded way he had gone into the question." The doctor had been very careful to advise and not to condemn them, and he thought that if they only had more Government officials with Dr. Langley Hunt's spirit it would be better for the Government officials themselves, for the Government in particular and for the planting community. (Applause).

Mr. E. C. ELLIOTT seconded, and the vote of thanks was carried unanimously.

Dr. LANGLEY HUNT shortly returned thanks. His position was really a very difficult one. He was generally looked upon as a Government spy sent up to criticise and find fault. In his life he had ever been called upon to justify and excuse his existence (laughter), this had not been the case in Nuwara Eliya, and therefore he thanked them.

#### Hospital Suggestion.

##### P.C.M.O.'s SATISFACTORY REPLY.

At the last meeting of the Association, it will be remembered, the Hon. Secretary was instructed to write to the P.C.M.O. bringing to his notice the following recommendations from the Unofficial Hospital Visitor's report on the Nuwara Eliya Hospital:—(1) The kitchen for native patients is considered far too small and dark and a great improvement would be effected if it were pulled down and re-constructed. (2) Access to the Baker's Ward requires improvement, for, under present conditions, patients who are unable to walk have to be carried for some distance up a steep path which cannot be adapted for a rickshaw or an ambulance. This inconvenience could be easily remedied by cutting a new road to connect with the Lady McCallum drive which passes at no great distance above









